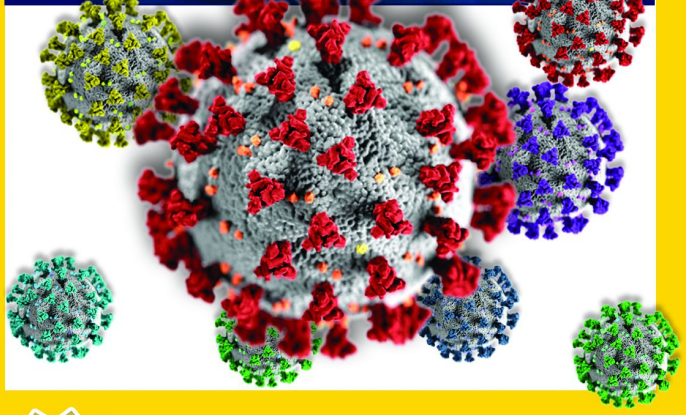
Coro-nostalgia



venku

శ్రీ ఎమ్మెస్సార్ వెంకటరమణ (వెంకూ)కు..

'కరోనోస్టాల్జియా', 'ష్.. వైరస్' శీర్షికలతో మీరు రచించిన రెండు పుస్తకాలను పరిశీలించాను. చైనాలో కరోనా వైరస్ ఉద్భవించినప్పటి నుంచి తాజాగా టీకా పరిణామాల వరకు ప్రతి అంశాన్ని చక్కగా స్పృశిస్తూ.. ప్రజల్లో నెలకొన్న అపోహలను, వాటిని నిర్వీర్యం చేసేందుకు జరిగిన ప్రయత్నాలను కరోనా సమయంలో మీతోపాటు, మీ స్నేహితులు, ఇతరుల అనుభవాలను మీ పాత్రికేయ ప్రావిణ్యాన్ని జోడిస్తూ రెండు పుస్తకాలను తీసుకొచ్చిన మీ చొరవను మనస్ఫూర్తిగా అభినందిస్తున్నాను.

కరోనా పుట్టుపూర్వోత్తరాలకు ఆత్మకథను జోడిస్తూ, ఈ మహమ్మారి కారణంగా ప్రపంచం ఎదుర్కొంటున్న క్లేశాలను, అంతిమ సంస్కారాలకు ఆ నలుగురు కూడా దొరకని పరిస్థితిని వివరిస్తూ.. బాధితుల కుటుంబ సభ్యుల మానసిక సంఘర్షణకు అక్షరరూపం కల్పించిన తీరు హృదయానికి హత్తుకుంది. దీనికితోడు కథాంశంలో అక్కడక్కడ సందర్భానుసారంగా గుల్జార్, తిలక్ వంటి వారి కవితలను, రుద్రం నమక చమకాలను, వాల్మీకి శ్లోకాలను ప్రస్తావించడాన్ని ప్రత్యేకంగా అభినందిస్తున్నాను.

ఓవైపు సమాచారాన్ని అందిస్తూనే మరోవైపు జర్నలిస్టుగా ప్రతి అంశాన్ని స్పృశిస్తూ.. భూమండలం మీద జరుగుతున్న పరిణామాలను సునిశితంగా గమనించాల్సిన అవసరాన్ని, జీవ వైవిధ్యాన్ని కాపాడడానికి నడుం కట్టాల్సిన అవసరాన్ని చాలా చక్కగా వివరించారు.

అంతిమంగా ప్రకృతి పరిరక్షణతోనే మానవ మనుగడ అనే సందేశం ఆకట్టుకునే విధంగా ఉంది. పాఠకుడిని తర్వాతి పేజీకి తీసుకువెళ్లేందుకు కావాల్సిన ఉత్సుకతను కలిగించేలా, ఆసక్తిని పెంపొందించేలా ఉండే మీ రచనాశైలి ఇకపైనా ఇలాగే కొనసాగాలని ఆకాంక్షిస్తూ మిమ్మల్ని మరోసారి అభినందిస్తున్నాను. స్వతహాగానే సాహితీ ప్రేమికుడై శాంతాబయోటిక్స్ అధినేత శ్రీ వరప్రసాద్ రెడ్డి గారు, చక్కటి రచనలను, రచయితలను ప్రోత్సహించేందుకు సంకల్పించిన ప్రయత్నంలో భాగంగా ఈ రెండు పుస్తకాలను ప్రచురించేందుకు ముందుకు వచ్చిన నేపథ్యంలో వారికి కూడా అభినందనలను తెలియజేస్తున్నాను.

– ముప్పవరపు వెంకయ్యనాయుడు

భారత ఉపరాష్ట్రపతి

తెలుగువారి ముద్దుబిడ్డ, ఉపరాష్ట్రపతి
శ్రీయుత ఎం.వెంకయ్యనాయుడుగారి ఆశీస్సులు

सत्यमेव जयते

भारत के उपराष्ट्रपति

VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA

శ్రీ ఎమ్మెస్సార్ వెంకటరమణ (వెంకూ)కు,

నమస్తే

'కరోనోస్టాల్జియా, ష్.. వైరస్ శీర్షికలతో మీరు రచించి, సంపిన రెండు పుస్తకాలను పరిశీలించాను. చైనాలో కరోనా వైరస్ ఉద్భవించినప్పటినుంచి తాజాగా టీకా పరిణామాల వరకు ప్రతి అంశాన్ని చక్కగా స్పృశిస్తూ.. ప్రజల్లో నెలకొన్న అపోహలను, వాటిని నివృత్యం చేసేందుకు జరిగిన ప్రయత్నాలను. కరోనా సమయంలో మీతోపాటు, మీ స్నేహితులు, ఇతరుల అనుభవాలకు మీ పాత్రికేయ ప్రావీణ్యాన్ని జోడిస్తూ రెండు పుస్తకాలను తీసుకొచ్చిన మీ చొరవను మనస్ఫూర్తిగా అభినందిస్తున్నాను.

కరోనా పుట్టుపూర్వోత్తరాలకు ఆత్మకథను జోడిస్తూ, ఈ మహమ్మారి కారణంగా ప్రపంచం ఎదుర్కొంటున్న క్లేశాలను, అంతిమ సంస్కారాలకు ఆ నలుగురు కూడా దొరకని పరిస్థితిని వివరిస్తూ.. బాధితుల కుటుంబ సభ్యుల మానసిక సంఘర్షణకు అక్షరరూపం కల్పించిన తీరు హృదయానికి హత్తుకుంది. దీనికితోడు కథాంశంలో అక్కడక్కడ సందర్భానుసారంగా గుల్జార్, తిలక్ వంటి వారి కవితలను, రుద్రం నమక చమకాలను, వాల్మీకి శ్లోకాలను ప్రస్తావించడాన్ని ప్రత్యేకంగా అభినందిస్తున్నాను.

ఓవైపు సమాచారాన్ని అందిస్తూనే, మరోవైపు జర్నలిస్టుగా ప్రతి అంశాన్నీ స్పృశిస్తూ.. భూమండలం మీద జరుగుతున్న పరిణామాలను సునిశితంగా గమనించాల్సిన అవసరాన్ని, జీవ వైవిధ్యాన్ని కాపాడడానికి నడుం కట్టాల్సిన అవసరాన్ని చాలా చక్కగా వివరించారు.

అంతిమంగా ప్రకృతి పరిరక్షణతోనే మానవ మనుగడ అనే సందేశం ఆకట్టుకునే విధంగా ఉంది. పాఠకుడిని తర్వాతి పేజీకి తీసుకెళ్లేందుకు కావాల్సిన ఉత్సుకతను కలిగించేలా, ఆసక్తిని పెంపొందించేలా ఉండే మీ రచనాశైలి ఇకపైనా ఇలాగే కొనసాగాలని ఆకాంక్షిస్తూ మిమ్మల్ని మరోసారి అభినందిస్తున్నాను.

స్వతహాగానే సాహితీ ప్రేమికుడైన శాంతాబయోటిక్స్ అధినేత శ్రీ వరప్రసాద్ రెడ్డి గారు, చక్కటి రచనలను, రచయితలను ప్రోత్సహించేందుకు సకల్పించిన ప్రయత్నంలో భాగంగా ఈ రెండు పుస్తకాలను ప్రచురించేందుకు ముందుకు వచ్చిన నేపథ్యంలో వారికి కూడా అభినందనలు తెలియజేస్తున్నాను.

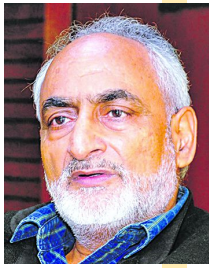
ముప్పవరపు వెంకయ్యనాయుడు

(ముప్పవరపు వెంకయ్యనాయుడు)

జూలై 29, 2021,

న్యూఢిల్లీ

Very creative and interesting



Dr Rakesh Mishra

Indian biological scientist

CCMB Former Director

It is my great pleasure to write a few preface words for **Venku's** book **CoroNostalgia**. He has touched many shades of the pandemic, people and what can be expected in future. The book explores origin of virus and speculates what might have led to damage of this magnitude to the society. The style of the analysis and presentation in the book reflect investigative journalism that makes his book unique.

The scientists investigate the biology of the virus, its genetic makeup and clinical aspects to look for counter measures (vaccines, drugs), preventive measures, and to understand the origin and spread of the virus. This book, to complement that, uncovers various aspects of the socio, economical and geopolitical aspects that might also have influenced the spread of the virus.

This is very important aspect and will probably attract more attention of writers in coming months. For those who would like to learn multiple aspects the pandemic, especially the social aspect, this book will go long way. It highlights examples of how a human help poured in for those in need – in form of food, shelter, or even in graveyards for respectful last rituals. In the midst of suffering and disasters, these were some of the better displays of humanity.

I offer my best wishes to **Venku** for his very creative and interesting work and I look forward to reading many more from him.

Dr Rakesh Kumar Mishra *is an Indian scientist specializing in genomics and epigenetics. Mishra retired as the 6th director of* ***CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology*** *in Hyderabad, India, on the April 30th, 2021. He is currently the Director of Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (****TIGS****), Bengaluru and holds J. C. Bose Fellowship at* ***CCMB.***

Many shades of the human sufferings

Dr Venkateswarlu Chamcha

Virologist, Senior Scientist, Merck & Co, Inc,
Harleysville, Pensylvania, **USA**

In modern society social media is one big uncontrolled source of negativity and a lot of ill information. Wait! Not all the time. When the covid outbreak broke like a wildfire, many people started providing whatever information they knew based on the news reports. These tons of information, most of the time, has nothing to do with the virus, disease, infection and the spread. This was something distrubed me and gave some sense of thought to correct this and provide the proper information as much as i can. Being a Virologist I thought many people were missing the facts and may be putting themselves at risk. With that being in mind, I started putting some videos on Facebook.

One day I saw a gentle man called **Venku** messaging me with his appreciation of facts and later asked me to come on the news channel. I am giving all this intro just to introduce how facebook helped me to connect with a great writer, critic and great human being in **Venku**. The current book **Shhh.. Virus** brought out all these qualities of **Venku** the author.

The book **CoroNostalgia** is a very unconventional narration of many shades of the human sufferings, human help, geopolitical situations, ruler's adamency and many more but all related to Coronavirus pandemic. Well one may ask, why these many shades in one book? Usually people write either medical books focused on disease and disease causing agents or their counterparts such as vaccines or other medical interventions.

However the beauty of this book is to touch on other aspects which are very important to learn especially when one of the biggest crises on the planet happens. Well one may ask, why do we need to learn outside of the disease or prevention methodologies? I was asking this very question until Venku asked me to read this book. What I realized is that when a crisis happens, it teaches many things from which we can learn and be prepared when such an unfortunate event happens in future. Venku brought this aspect in his book very well.

Well do we really need to learn so many things from this Outbreak? It only comes once in a while and may not be applicable all the time? So, how can I apply this knowledge? Well, I think this is where the writer in Venku came up at his best. He started on how some historical events such as world wars, great spanish flu etc. have occurred and how they just blew up?

Is it human error or nature's anger? or what did we learn from them and what did Corona teach to human beings? did Corona bring out the real & hidden human beings in many people? Yes. For all these questions Venku tried to give justice and presented as they had happened without any bias. So, I enjoyed a lot while reading this book and I am sure every reader will feel my very thoughts. I extend my warm regards to **Venku** and I thank him for giving me this opportunity to express these thoughts.

This is neither a story nor a fiction. This is a surreal representation with a captivating interlinkage of the virus database and 25 years of life journey as a journalist in Leading Telugu News Paper Eenadu.

Venku's

Coro-nostalgia

M.S.R.Venkata Ramana (Venku)

Translated by

Enugurthi Lakshmana Chary

2021

Preface

The sweet memories of Yesterday make us forget today's bitter experiences.

The attachments that are intertwined with the past help us in overcoming the loneliness in the present day.

Those memories empower us to face all the challenges and adversities in life.

Nostalgia is a soothing word used to term the serene muse of our past life.

In fact, it is a kind of treatment with the past memories and experiences. It is more like a placid nap in a mother's lap and a solace of a father's shoulder. Researchers describe it as the greatest Immune system adapted automatically by our mind to overcome the mental stress and loneliness.

The Etymology of this word provides the meaning from its two root words. In Greek, Nostos means 'return home' and Algos means 'pain'. As a whole, its etymological meaning is "Acute Homesickness".

This can be observed in the aspirants who strive for existence and employment.

In the long run for properties, promotions and fame, man gets engulfed by a sudden-complex desolation at a halt in his journey of life. It might be because of few adverse setbacks or due to the disastrous misfortune. Our enthusiasm levels get lowered in these circumstances. Ultimately, we realize the truth that what seemed yesterday so great and marvelous, is pure artificial. In the process, Nostalgia replaces the state of desolation.

In the period of this evil pandemic, the whole world stopped its restless motion and started to look back again. The man who is busy in building ladders

to the sky in the name of development, now had to make a stop and look into his origin.

Nostalgia is the reason for why migrant workers, who have left their villages for employment, and our children who have gone abroad in the hope of achieving something, are willing to travel thousands of kilometers just to reach native places at any cost.

In this period of terror induced by the pandemic, the whole planet including the people of every nation must have to look back.

Coro-nostalgia is one such attempt that inspires and motivates you to travel in the past life of yours.

This book provides you the answers to the questions like, what are the details of the history and origin of this horrific Corona virus? How did it take the form of a pandemic? and etc. It also consists most of the significant news and the virus data published in various newspapers and online news websites like BBC, CNN etc. those newspapers also include the reputed international newspapers like Telegraph, The Guardian etc.

This is neither a story nor a fiction. This is a surreal representation with a captivating interlinkage of the virus database and my 25 years of life journey as a journalist in Eenadu newspaper.

My Coro-nostalgia cordially welcomes you…

VENKU

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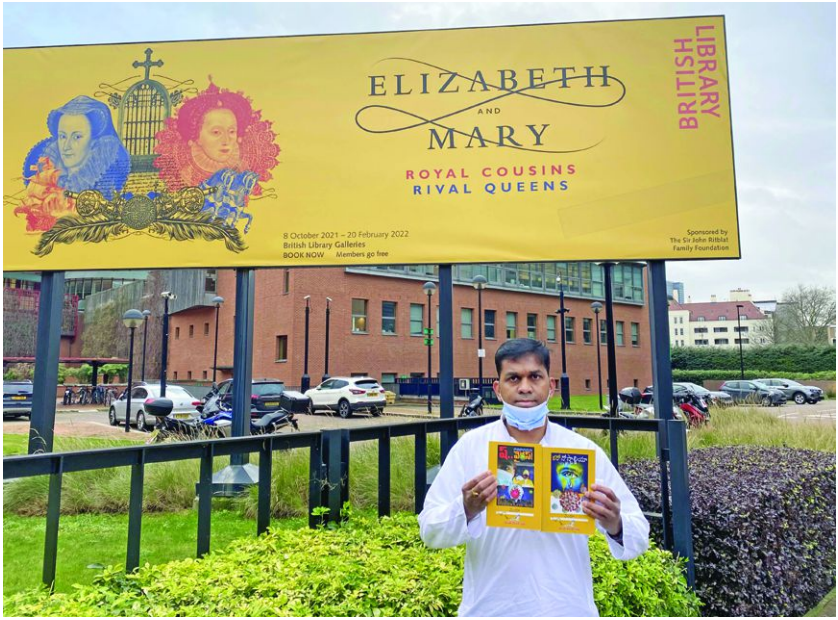
CoroNostalgia books in British library, London



"asatoma sadgamaya
tamasomo jyotirgamaya
mrityorma amritangamaya
Om shantihi.. shantihi.. shantihi"

From untrue illusions to the Truth, from Darkness to the Radiance, from Mortality to Immortality, O' Lord! make me move.

I'd Opened my eyes and took a glance at my surroundings.

There was a spider hanging to the ceiling. With lot of care and concentration, it was weaving a web for its shelter. Unfortunately, it fell down.

A thread like substance secreted from its body, rescued it. Though it fell two feet down, it leapt up with the same thread and reached its web. As usually, it again concentrated in weaving its web.

There were few nurses in white uniform, discussing with a person sitting on a table in that long hall. I think he was the doctor checking the medical case sheets of patients.

I looked around and found most of the beds empty.

On a wall behind the beds, there was a paper on which "ISOLATION WARD" was written in big fonts.

A mask on my face and a pair of gloves to my hands. Through a pipe from the saline bottle attached to the stand, drop by drop saline was intruding my body. Breathing became tough. It was so suffocating.

Luckily, my right hand was free. I was unable to remember when did I come to this hospital. At last, after seeing my phone beside the bed, I felt alive.

I stretched my hand and grabbed my phone. Tapped on it. Thank God! It's working. Date appeared as I opened it.

Holy hell! Had it been a week since joined here?

I opened Google... CNN world news portal was seen. Big BREAKING NEWS- "Corona cases had reached one crore mark and about 10 lakh deaths were recorded".

It had spread across 220 countries. "About 2.5 lakh citizens might have died only in America", cautioned President Donald Trump.

C O R O N A

!!!

Chapter 2

I was dazed…

That was merely a topic which had been discussing since few days and was seen just like a normal news topic.

Had it entered my body now?

Why I was kept here? When was I brought?

Myriad questions hit my head.

At a distance, there were two people. One was a nurse with usual irritated face and the other, a careless ward boy. This kind of irresponsible people are common in Govt hospitals.

Radhakrishna, my nephew, was seen talking to another nurse.

I don't know when he had arrived. But I was keen to enquire everything. Therefore, I waited for him. But he went out, not speaking a single word to me. May be doctors insisted him to bring medicine. I closed my eyes as I felt too drowsy.

After a while, two doctors and two nurses came to me. They were asking something. But I couldn't figure them out. Between Yes and No, I shook my head.

Slowly, they lifted me and made me to sit on knees. They bent me forward and put my hands above the head. Finally, lifted my waist like in the shape of a bow. I remember my childhood, where I used to sleep in different angles at night.

I don't know what they were doing. To me, they appeared as senior mechanics, who lift the car bonnet to examine it. I couldn't bring myself to ask them, "what was going on"? I went insensitive and was intoxicated. Suddenly, a burning sensation raised in my waist as if a red-hot iron rod was pierced into my spine. Two doctors held me tight so as to make sure I wouldn't move out of pain. Thus, they gave me an injection. Later, that region of body became blunt.

While the pain was getting low, they pierced another needle so as to collect medical sample for the clinical analysis.

At last, they laid me on the bed and went out as if nothing had happened now.

An old black and white photograph was seen hanged to the wall far away from me. He is a white man in a black coat. I'd seen him somewhere. But unable to recall his name.

After a long muse, I remembered that he is Sir Ronald Ross, who once lived in the present day Secunderbad region and performed notable researches on Malaria disease. He proved that female Anopheles mosquito is the vector of malaria disease. He was a great researcher and a recipient of the Noble prize (1902).

His name was kept to the Tropical disease hospital in Nallakunta which later known to common people as- "Fever Hospital".

Therefore, I realized that this place is "Fever Hospital". Natives call it as "Koranty" derived from the word, Quarantine.

In the time of British, to eradicate the spread of epidemics like flu and malaria, victims were separated from common people and taken to a place far from them for 40 days. This process is called as Quarantine. In Italian language, quarantine means 40 days. This hospital was built in the Nizam's era to quarantine the victims of epidemics. Eventually, It was known to people as "Koranty dawakhaana".

Due to Corona, everyone came to know about this word, Quarantine.

Now, I remembered. Nallakunta hospital was also transformed into Quarantine Centre.

By the way, why did I come here? Who brought me?

Many such endless questions were haunting me.

Articles and news, which I had written and read earlier, popped up in my mind.

Chapter 3

Month of December, 2019…

The whole world was waiting to welcome the New Year. Necessary arrangements were on progress in all the countries.

At the same time, a new pandemic was getting ready to set a deadly battle on mankind. Nature's powers were unified to teach a lesson to humans who assumed themselves as superiors in the entire universe.

Far from human, in a dark cave where even light can't enter inside, a strange mammal hung topsy turvy, was laughing. It was eager to spectate the upcoming consequences.

Bat is the name of that creature!!

In the burrows outside this same cave, there was another strange creature named "Pangolin". It ran into the burrow in a hurry.

01 December 2019…

Wuhan- a city in China

Wuhan is a joyful modern city with 1.10 crore population.

Wuhan is famous for sale and business of wildlife meat. But all of a sudden, people of the city started consulting doctors with symptoms similar to cold, cough and pneumonia.

20 December 2019…

Doctors were prescribing some normal medicine. But still, the number of patients is increasing rapidly. Doctors couldn't understand anything.

The virus started spreading in Wuhan. Beginning from one, it started affecting hundreds of people. The number of Victims is growing rapidly. Local medical officers had already informed the Government on this issue. On a large scale, measures to control virus were set ready.

31 December 2019…

To the headquarters of World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, an emergency message from China's High-level Authorities was sent.

The excerpt of the message is as follows - a strange disease similar to pneumonia in Wuhan city is spreading vigorously.

Therefore, the Info about the first corona virus case was given to WHO from the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The whole world was uttered and shocked.

Some had realized that something worse is going to occur in future.

It is unfortunate that there were no one from WHO to estimate the disease's consequences.

01 January 2020…

Instead of setting new aims and ambitions as usual, now the World entered the New Year with new set of fears.

Wuhan was shivering. Number of the victims is increasing. A mechanism of officers had entered the game. Locked the city in all eight directions. Banned transportation to 13 cities. But It was too late.

Along with the New year, a strange-freakish disease visited Earth.

06 January…

Doctors identified the rapid spread of a big class of corona viruses, causing cold like small ailments and SARS, MERS like critical ailments related to Esophagus. Fever, cough, and esophagus related ailments are the normal symptoms of this virus. In some situations, there is a chance for the failure of organs. It can also lead to pneumonia or even death sometimes.

Corona means Crown in Latin…

The virus is named as corona since it was seen in the shape of a crown while observed through microscope. This virus attacks on the Respiratory system and was found in the year 1960. In fact, it is also a reason for our normal cold. Till now, eight types of corona viruses were discovered. These viruses show severe effect on mammals especially.

The new virus is exhibiting an ardent effect on public health. It is identified as the 2019 Novel Corona virus and is the seventh type in the family of corona viruses.

08 January…

The first case outside the China, was recorded in Chiyang Mai International Airport.

Doctors were frightened after discovering that the transmission of virus can also occur through air i.e. while sneezing and coughing. Dr. Josi Golding stated- "we can say that the virus, in fact, spreads from animals. But we are unable to point out a particular animal".

09 January…

Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for the first time, demonstrated the sequence of corona virus in front of the world.

11 January…

First death due to corona was recorded. A 61 years old man, who joined hospital with an unknown fever, was died in Wuhan.

That was just a beginning...

Chapter 4

Second death was recorded

On 15th of January, second death was recorded in China after the first case came out in Japan. On 20th of January, a suspicious disease came into light in South Korea. Meanwhile, third death was also recorded in China. Even America and Australia also witnessed corona cases.

Novel corona started spreading all over the world by conquering one by one castles in its mission.

Scientists analyzed the genetic sequence of corona virus and they primarily stated that, this is corona virus which is seen oftenly in Bats. The present corona virus might had evolved after it combinatio with the virus found in reptiles like snakes etc. World scientists and researchers, now had got lot of work to go with. Many big research organizations, clinical labs and pharmaceutical companies had entered the battle field.

From America to Russia, from India to the Great Britain, every country focused on this issue very critically. How to rescue mankind from this evil pandemic? How can we save ourselves first?

Now this is the main aim for all.

On 31st of December 2019, China informed WHO that there was a sudden rise in pneumonia cases and the reason wasn't founded yet.

Nine days later, Chinese Authorities revealed that they had recognized corona virus while treating pneumonia cases.

By 23rd of January 2020, cities including Wuhan implemented lockdown. On 30th of January, WHO declared COVID-19 Health Emergency. Later, 82 COVID-19 cases were recorded outside China.

5 Chapter

What if the air we breathe become poisonous?

What if we had to move away from our dearest ones?

Corona had created the same situation as described above. WHO suggested to maintain distance from one another to eradicate the virus. Actually, virus means poison in Latin.

The trait of infecting human from human is the principal reason for the rapid spread of corona virus. It also spreads through air. "Moving closely with the victims of corona virus is also dangerous", researchers stated.

A market of sea food in Wuhan was identified as the Centre of corona virus spread.

People infected with this disease will be affected by cold first. Then after fever, chest pain and suffocation in breathing etc. Inability to sense taste and smell are also the symptoms of this disease.

If no treatment is given in time, it leads to severe pneumonia and sometimes causes death due to the failure of key organs like lungs, kidneys etc.

It was identified that the intensity of virus was significant and was spreading rapidly in cold conditions.

A journal of Medical Virology declared that the virus is also spreading by entering into the esophagus when a victim sneezes or coughs.

At present, there is no treatment and no vaccine available to cure the disease. However, a lot of damage had occurred already.

It wrapped half of the countries in the world.

People were advised to save themselves and follow the necessary precautions to prevent the virus.

22 January 2020…

World Health Organization was assembled for a great need.

After analyzing the situations, it passed few precautions to the mankind.

WHO declared emergency throughout the world. Till then, cases reached 500 mark and 17 deaths were recorded. All airports implemented lockdown. Countries including India, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Hong Kong and America initiated scanning the passengers thoroughly.

Popular Pharmaceutical companies being familiar about the threat to mankind, started experiments to find the vaccine for this deadly virus.

WHO suggested not to move closely with strangers and not touch the body parts like eyes, mouth and nose. Always wear a mask. Do not roam in crowdy places and avoid long journeys. Must wash hands for at least 20 seconds. It also advised to maintain distance from family members.

Around 2002-03, SARS, a virus belonging to the family of corona, was spread. Now in 2019, corona virus is shaking the world.

Geneva…

Scientists of various countries assembled to discuss the ways to eradicate corona virus.

International committee on Taxonomy of viruses recognized this virus as SARS-COV-2. Officially, WHO named this virus as COVID-19. Tedros Adhanom, the Director General of WHO revealed this matter.

Care had to be taken while naming a disease so as to ensure that it is not a name of any creed, person or animal. The name must be related to the disease and must be simple to pronounce.

New virus.. new name COVID-19

Thus, the name, COVID-19 was given by deriving it from the first letters of the words- Corona, Virus, Disease. And added the year 2019. Now, this pandemic's name will remain forever in the history of mankind for generations.

"There will be many chances to control the virus if we can facilitate necessary resources", stated Jebreyasas. He appreciated China for taking preventive measures. "China experiencing slow spreading of virus since it followed the preventive measures strictly", he said.

Naturally, America didn't like it and argued that his attitude is supportive for china. The president of America himself announced corona as "China made virus". China with no chill countered America stating that HIV should also be addressed as America virus accordingly. This kind of consequences made sensation throughout the world.

A cold war was initiated between the world's two strong nations with the most stable economy. What kind of consequences does this war lead? How the future of world is going to change?

It is OK to have mild jealousy between two contenders as it leads to an enthusiastic competition. But being more envious will lead to self-destruction.

Let the time answer about the situations happening now!...

Deaths were countless…

There were lakhs of people infected with the virus. And yet the number of deaths was not confirmed. WHO Director General called out people to fight against the pandemic. China's financial system was worst hit. American Federal Reserve warned that this effect might also be shifted to other countries.

China verified about 82,200 people infected with the virus. Unexpectedly, cases were increased even more. All the hospitals were filled. No empty beds were seen. China turned these critical circumstances into a great opportunity to showcase its intellectual spirit and human power.

It astonished the entire world by building a thousand-bed hospital in just a week duration.

In the initial days of corona, Hubei province experienced 103 deaths in a single day. Deaths reached 3106 mark in the whole country. This created a huge fear in citizens. It was termed as the biggest health crisis next to SARS virus occurred in 2002-03.

Gradually, corona entered all the countries of the world. The intensity of virus was high in the powerful countries like America, Britain, Russia, Germany, Canada, Italy, Brazil, Spain etc. This virus appeared as God of Death for old people. It became difficult to get cured for those who crossed the age of 60 or 70. Few countries decided to admit only the patients whose life expectancy was certain. This is the perfect evidence to understand the intensity.

Numerous deaths of elderly people in old age homes were recorded in Italy and Great Britain. There was no leisure to identify old people alone. Ultimately, it appeared to destruct a generation from its roots. Tomorrow, it may enter our family too.

Now, aim of everyone is same. To live. Live anyway. And must escape from the hazardous clutches of this evil pandemic.

Chapter 6

Sudden crisis of essential commodities

From Arabian countries to America, there was a severe scarcity for essential commodities. People had to rush into shops as soon as they get opened in the mornings. In some places, they had to stand in que for several hours. This was an unseen and unheard crisis ever in the history of America.

There were many problematic situations where even a tissue paper was not found. A newspaper called N.T News made an innovative experiment by adding 8 more empty pages. It distributed those with a watermark saying that the newspaper can be also be used as toilet paper. Many such sad stories were witnessed in websites and International newspapers.

No one had dare to shake hand. Even the president of America himself greeted people with namaskar. For the first time, the queen of Britain left the Buckingham palace for reaching a safe place.

It is noted that for every hundred years, a pandemic comes out to frighten the world. This is a historical truth- one of my Facebook friends posted in his timeline. Plague in 1720, Cholera in 1820, Bubonic Plague in 1920 changed the fate of the world by creating havoc in the world countries. Now, corona virus was born in Wuhan and expanded throughout the world for destruction.

2000 cases were recorded in just 24 hours. Rwanda stood ideal in controlling the virus. Preventive measures like sanitization were implemented with great interest.

Italy imposed lockdown. It ordered its citizens not to come out of doors. Schools, theatres and malls were closed. Italians who were habituated to liberal life with luxuries, not cared the cautions from the government. Instead, they assumed lockdown as vacation. Pubs and Beaches were filled with people.

A week later, they had to pay the compensation for their actions. The number of cases shifted from hundreds to thousands now. Hospitals were filled. At last, it led to arrange temporary beds in the corridors, playgrounds and even in the streets. Patients were falling like birds. Common people became sick both mentally and physically.

There was a greater decrease in the occupancy ratio in International airports due to less passengers. Many Airline companies decreased their services while some companies abiding to the mandatory rules, flew empty planes (ghost flights). If at least 20 percent planes were not used, it will be considered under the violation of Air Transportation rules.

Many doubts and criticisms
were raised against China's response…

Chinese officers filed case on a doctor who already cautioned about the spread of virus. He shared information in social media about the preventive measures and symptoms of the new virus. This was considered as crime. The doctor experienced intense pressure from the officials of China. The tragedy was the doctor who cautioned people about the disease, at last died due to the same disease. However, China is well-known for such subtle tragedies.

Doctors and scientists who cautioned about the virus were vanished and some of them were punished. The reasons are still a mystery.

Huwang Yaan Ling who worked as a researcher in a virology lab in Wuhan, is considered as the first patient (zero patient) of corona virus. All of a sudden, she was disappeared. Her details were removed from the laboratory's website. Later, officials of the laboratory announced that she was alive. Business magnet Fangben, lawyer Chen Qiushi and former TV reporter Lee Jehovah were either punished or kept in detention Centre.

Telegraph newspaper blasted a bomb

Five countries criticized China regarding the virus spread. They stated that China lied by saying virus can't be transmitted by humans and they also fired since China had disappeared the reporters who informed the world about corona virus. The alliance of five eyes- America, Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, prepared a secret report. In accordance to this report, American president Trump criticized China. Telegraph had caught that report and it kept in front of the world.

There were all the answers to the questions like- what had happened in china in the initial days of virus spread? what did China inform to the world? what are the truths in it?.

Did it take birth in laboratory?

● China tried to compromise the world by stating that virus had come out of a Sea food market in Wuhan. But this is a pure lie. Actually, the virus had come out from the P4 laboratory in Wuhan. Chinese officers destroyed laboratory samples so as to cover the truth. They sprinkled bleaching powder in the entire Wuhan market in order to leave no clue about the virus.

● China also lied stating that virus will not transmit from person to person. The border countries like Taiwan disapproved China. But by the end of January, the WHO itself showed partiality towards China by approving it. This weakened the International transparency between countries of the world.

● China had disappeared the people's news reporters (Whistle blowers) who provided information to the world about the virus. It had also shut the mouths of critiques.

● China hindered the Internet since it provided the info about the virus and its medical emergency.

● China denied to cooperate other countries in preparing the vaccine to the virus.

● China had not cautioned the world countries about the virus cases and its intensity. Instead, it manipulated the cases by showing less number.

● China concealed about the dangerous silent vectors in virus spread.

Did the dragon aware of it in December only…

The secret report revealed that the virus spread was started in the initial days of December itself.

● Though china was familiar about the virus that it can be transmitted from person to person, it came denying this fact.

● By December 31, it had deleted the words like SARS, Wuhan sea meat market, pneumonia in Wuhan from the Internet.

● On January 3, China ordered its National Health Commission to destroy the virus samples and not to print any information about the virus samples.

● China stopped travel facilities. But to the world it advised not to stop journeys. Due to this, by February, lakhs of people travelled to various countries. It criticized the countries which thought to prohibit travelling services. But it implemented rules in its country.

Some more secrets revealed from that report...

2013: Chinese scientists collected the virus samples from Bats. Its genetic sequence was matched COVID-19 virus up to 96 percentage.

9th November 2015: Wuhan laboratory announced that they had invented the Corona virus.

6th December 2019: A woman had got fever after touching her husband who was suffering from pneumonia in Wuhan market. This was the case which was transmitted from person to person.

27th December: China announced that 180 people in the country were infected with corona virus.

1st January 2020: Doctors were arrested since they had warned on virus spread.

10th January: Chinese officers declared that the virus spread was Under Control.

11th January: First corona death was recorded in China.

23rd January: Implementation of complete lockdown in Wuhan.

30th January: WHO recognized virus spread as a Pandemic.

7th February: Doctor Li Wenliang, who spoke about corona was died to the same corona. His death was a big mystery. China dismissed many of its senior officers after his death. Head of the Hubei Health Commission and Secretary of the Communist party of China were there in that dismissal. Central Govt of China sent a team from the higher department of the Anti-corruption Bureau to enquire the way how officers dealt with the doctor.

Google was filled with lot of such stories and articles…

Most important was the WHO's declaration of the virus as pandemic!

This was the evidence for the intensity of situations around the world.

By the evening, pain in the spine was relieved…

I was able to get up and sit…

Slowly, I walked near the window. I felt alive after seeing outside surroundings from the window.

Vehicles were moving on roads. City was so radiant. It seemed as if India was so joyful. The rich and the poor, the young and the old, happy faces, sad faces, workers, enthusiasts… I can see all kinds of humans out there.

Children in a gully, were playing cricket by keeping bricks as wickets. Complete happiness was seen in their faces. They were shouting at themselves. Whenever there was a conflict, they gathered at a place and were discussing the game rules again. While two children compromising others and the others followed these two children.

Two beggars sat in front of a closed shop on the footpath. There were no traces of sorrow in both of their eyes about future. One of them, kept bidi in his mouth and was smoking joyfully. Later, he shared it with his friend. Then his friend smoked the same cigarette strongly in and out. I was impressed at the way they were enjoying a single piece of bidi at their own level of satisfaction.

This is a living country and a complete country. Even the poor in my country, donates the needy at their very best level. Such a great country is mine. Though the sunset was a normal as usual, it appeared marvelous as I've seen it with an aesthetic perspective. Aren't the sceneries of the dust appearing strange? These soothing thoughts thrilled my mind positively. World was seen optimistic to me.

Chapter 7

Speech is Silver.. silence is Gold!

Practicing silence by controlling our tongue and using speech only when it is necessary, is a great science!

Pyramid society states that we can live 99 percent of life happily and joyfully without speech.

Yes... The world is silent now. But this silence was not pleasing at all. Instead, it was frightening and resembled the silence of a graveyard. After lot of thinking, it seemed as a yoga mudra.

22nd March 2020

This entire country, now maintaining Janata curfew to eradicate virus. The life of people had stopped in a single day. Transport, shops and businesses were closed. People were advised not to come out of their houses. It is difficult for human who's known as social animal, to lock himself like the way he lived in caves in earlier ages.

As I woke up in the morning, menacing silence ruling everywhere. The rare chirpings of the birds, were now heard greatly in the city. But they weren't pleasing.

Though it was a one-day Janata curfew, there was a slight suspicion running in my mind that it might extend further. People were unable to understand the present circumstances. How long will it persist? What kind of necessaries were to be made? It seemed strange for me.

Few friends on social media were advising to store food grain and necessary groceries as soon as possible. While a few were disappointed since most of the shops got empty already. A person asked, "why are buying these many items?". The other replied, "Who knows the lockdown might extend to a month or even two months? Indeed! Every has their own fear. But what about the poor who can't afford even a single meal? It seems to be a very small question. But no one imagined that it would it transform in to a big crisis ever in the history of mankind.

Masks, alcohols and sanitizers were out of stock

Few comments in social media were sarcastic, making others angry. Some had fear of death. Some had usual negligence. Most of the people who had come from foreign were careless about the precautions. They were roaming stubbornly. Some people were travelling secretly by buses and trains. Some citizens were scolding by capturing such people. Netizens were furious

on the literates due to their illiterate activities.

I looked into the street. Some of the people wore masks on their faces. No cars were seen on roads. Pedestrians were also less in number. Ultimately, the entire city appeared motionless.

When will the city comes in to life?

The world was calm and silent.

It appeared as if I was alone. Rarely, I could sense the existence of humans after hearing the vehicles sounds on the roads.

My mind was also not stable to think about the ways of getting cured from my illness.

I felt that I was still connected to the world. It was sorrowful for me to think about the way how old and physically abnormal people were leading their lives. My eyes were wet. I felt helpless. Even I had thought to die out of anger and pain.

However, I had achieved few important goals in my life. I had nothing to bother in fact. I am fully contented.

But I was also not ready to witness a sudden end of my life.

Someone was scolding a teenager riding bike in the street. Fear created divisions and conflicts among the people. Reforming faith and relationship are not so easy as we think.

City was full of fear. People had to wear masks. Now, it was mandatory to prevent corona. But still, few people were seen without masks.

I wonder why they didn't wear masks. perhaps, they couldn't afford masks or they were unaware of the pandemic.

While a few people thought no meaning in wearing masks, others were afraid of duplicate masks. Masks made up of piece of cloth were seen in most the faces. Though quality masks available in the market, in the poor country like us, it will be difficult to afford those. People had to be very cautious in such situations.

Still there was silence outside.

Very rarely, sound of the pedestrians was heard. They might not like to remain as prisoners in homes.

I sat seeing my mobile phone. But couldn't concentrate on it due to the friction of random thoughts in my mind. Few videos were getting circulated in social media. While few people were self-arresting themselves in houses.

People were seen as soldiers entering into the battle field when they came out of their doors. Wasn't that so pathetic? fighting with enemies who were unknown and invisible.

At 5 O' clock in the evening, people had come on to roads as per the call of PM Modi. Some of them were making noises in their balconies. While

a few shouted "Bye Bye Corona" from their windows. That was a collective prayer in the form of self-empowerment. But I knew that this was temporary for sure. Now, doors were getting closed immediately after knowing one's neighbor got infected by virus. This was clearly an undeniable fact.

It became true in the later days. Not giving rents for corona positive tenants and making them to vacate rooms, many such incidents came into light during lockdown.

However, this was just a beginning.

Strict lockdown rules..

Central govt had implemented national wide lockdown for controlling Corona virus. Police were warning the people that the trespassers will be prosecuted. They had been taking serious actions on those who roam carelessly on roads. Teenagers were also punished. Still, people were too careless. They often roamed on bikes unnecessarily. Police strictly warned them saying trespassers will be taken to jail. They even kindly requested people to cooperate in the virus control by following the rules of lockdown. Police cleverly frightened people by placing dummy corpses on roads. Some of the policemen pretended as patients so as to frighten the people.

Another shocking incident took place in Punjab. A person named Harjith Singh cut the hand of an ASI while the police were questioning him and his friends since they crossed a check post without a permission. Police arrested 9 members in this case. The injured police officer fell off the ground like a wingless bird. Soon he was admitted in the hospital. After his recovery, he was welcomed on a red carpet. His neighbors showered flowers on him. This incident melted many hearts in the nation.

A son carried his ill father on shoulder.

The most miserable incident had taken place in Punalur village of Kollam district in Kerala. A middle-aged person had carried his ill father on his shoulder. His father was 65 years old and was discharged from a hospital near Punalur. Police stopped the auto which they were travelling. They did not allow him though his house was just a kilometer far by then. He tried his best to convince the police by showing the treatment details etc.

After no choice was left, he lifted his father on his shoulder and carried him to his village. Human Rights Commission had collected the details after the video went viral on social media.

A football player left in an airport for 74 days

International travel Ban on one side.. Lockdown on the other side.. in between there was a rapid increase of corona virus spread in Mumbai. In this situation, a Ghana football player named 'Randy Havan Muller' had got

trapped in the Mumbai Airport Terminal for 74 days. He spent life alone. He had only thousand rupees in hand then. Muller had come to India in the month of March for the Kerala's popular "Seven-a-side" football Tournament. Since the virus spread was effective then, he travelled to Mumbai from Thrissur by Train. After reaching the airport, he came to know that the flights were banned. "I slept their itself after knowing about the flights ban. A police officer came. And woke me up. He told me to leave the place. But I couldn't go to Kerala or stay in a hotel. Because I'd no money left. I knew nothing to do then. I thought death was decided for me. At last, I remained in at the edge of a Terminal which cannot be found by anyone so easily. Though, police found me after a few days, they realized my situation and helped me. However, I was resided there for two months. Police provided me food. I spent time by watching movies in their Mobiles. I told them our village specialties. They rescued me during Nisarga cyclone by allowing me to stay in their cabin. Later, Maharashtra minister Aditya Thakre came to know about me and allotted me a room in a hotel. He spoke with the Embassy. And after the start of flight travel, he helped me in travelling to Ghana" Muller told.

They thought I was dead…

Since his phone was damaged, he was unable to talk with his family for around 20 days. He said that they had thought he was dead.

Muller explained, "Police had given me a phone. My family members told that they had thought I was dead, when I called them for first time. But I was safe here. This people are good humans. They used to bring me roti, biscuit, soft drinks etc. I faced small problems about dresses. I used to wear a single pair for the entire week. Later I used dry them in sunlight and spray perfume. And wear it again".

Chapter 8

Wuhan city closed

Nothing was striking my mind.
Only mobile was connecting me to the world outside.
I googled for news in China.

Wuhan city was completely closed. Rules were implemented to stop entry and exit in the city. Shops and businesses were also shut down. It was difficult for 1.10 crore people in the city to meet their minimum needs. Mainly, there were lot of troubles in gathering the food items.

Wuhan citizens complained about food crisis in Weibo, the biggest social media platform in China. Though vegetables were found rarely, there prices reached the peaks. Actually, people were afraid to come out and buy vegetables. Now, it was even riskier to order food online.

A student in Wuhan said, "we were afraid to meet the outsiders who come for food delivery".

Meituan, a food delivering company in China came out to encounter this problem by the means of technology. It had 44 crores of customers. It serves about 7 lakh food deliveries daily. It made necessary arrangements to ensure no meeting of delivery boy and customer. Accordingly, it designed an application. Delivery boys will place delivery item in the locations prior to the customer's wish. This gave positive results. Thus, rest of the companies also followed the same path. Yes! Newness is always followable.

Work from home

This new type of virus not only decreasing the economies of companies, but also changed the mode of jobs.

Companies like Facebook, WeWork and Morgan Stanley instructed their staff to work from home. Usually, these companies provide free food in office.

Since the employees had to work from home, demand for online food service increased more. After the virus outbreak, Meituan company expanded "Human Contact Free" delivery service for 184 cities.

This company served free food like a boon for the medical staff. Medical staff out there had to encounter lot of distress in treating thousands of virus victims. They didn't even have a short period of time to cook or to get

food from outside. In fact, they couldn't order food. Fortunately, Meituan company, now meeting their needs. In doing so, the company arranged contactless lockers outside the hospitals. In order to ensure that the delivery boys won't touch lockers it enabled QR code protection for unlocking the lockers. So that, only the medical staff can open the locker through scanning the QR code and have the food. This was so cool indeed.

Being bored of news in china, I locked my phone and kept it aside.

I stepped into the real world again... I don't know still how many days were to be spent in hospital…. Myriad questions and doubts… But who'll answer them? Will I step out of this hazard?

As age passes on, there will be few topics which makes us feel sad. Death is the first and foremost one among such topics.

It appears to be much tragic and tedious. This is not at all the feeling that we will not survive. But the feeling of the deletion of our memories and past along with us, makes us feel tedious.

It was hard to feel the reality that the life experienced, things which we had seen, heard, thought and felt will not remain in the world. I wish this feeling should be deleted from the present.

Let's see... will the man win over battle or the nature's powers dominate the man.

Chapter 9

Sweet memories

25 years of job in Eenadu newspaper.
Our dream house which was built after 10 years.
Everything came to remembrance..

Mother earth thrills with affection after the touch of the stumbling feet of an infant. The children excite on the arrival of relatives in their home. Likewise, the ocean also makes noise out of excitation as we step two feet near to it.

Sweet memories are same alike. Once they enter into our thoughts, an unknown experience surrounds the mind like a cold breeze. Gradually, I went into my past. Thoughts were travelling far from yesterday's memories, Job of 25 years and house etc. I crossed all these and wished to take a glance at my childhood.

And at last, my whirlpool of thoughts halted at the construction of our new house.

Eight decades ago, our grandfather and five decades ago our father, laid foundation. After many long years, me and my younger brother had the opportunity to lay foundation. While my younger brother completed construction in our native village and I constructed my house in Hyderabad.

On 28th of July 2017, early morning 04.27, foundation of our new house was laid in Bhagyalatha colony.

The wish come true moments at the age of 50 and completion of 3 decades of residence in Hyderabad, were enigmatic and pure euphoric.

This is the prologue…

Our native village has a great uniqueness. It is significant for the production of sesame oil. Elders say that it benefits mother and child. It possesses the ability of maintaining stable body temperature i.e. 98 F degrees. Its use in worshipping with diy?s is well-known in religious rituals.

The reason I have to say all this is because ours was the same profession.

Spring season in our old home…

"adhikam pratibhatyetan nilapitantu shadvalam

drumanam vividhaihi pushhpaihi paristomai "

"Since the various flowers of blue and yellow colors had fell down on this meadow, it appears to shine radiantly as an artistic mat", says Valmiki in the great Ramayana epic.

Our porch also used to exist same as described above. The jasmine creeper will bloom flowers in the evening. By morning, the porch will be full of jasmine flowers and petals. And there used to be a hibiscus plant near our well. These all things made our home look beautiful and divine.

For us, summer was a season of joy and happiness. Festive weather surrounds our home with the arrival of our relatives and their children.

There used to be a guava tree in the farmyard near our oil mill. At the edge of that tree, there used to be a heap of dry grass fodder. And we the tiny adventurers, used to compete each other in plucking those guavas.

Aaah! That was indeed a land of heaven, you see!

Ours was a big family. Uncles, aunts, sisters, brothers, cousins, children, about 50 people used to gather in our house.

Marriage has a great significance in the culture of Telugu people. In those days, marriage was a festival of 30 days i.e. one month. In some situations, two marriages used occur on a single stage. It starts from painting the entire house, distribution of wedding cards to relatives, buying or stitching new dresses, preparation of sweets, receiving the guests and relatives, late night works with interesting gossips and ends with joy and happiness which can be remembered throughout life.

By the way I hadn't told you about my family, right?

We were 10 children. 7 daughters and 3 sons in which our elder sister was the first one, my elder brother next and consecutively my remaining 6 sisters. Finally, me and my younger brother.

Our father used to run a grocery shop. He had a good name among all the businessmen in the village. Patience, authenticity and honesty were the only assets he possessed in his entire life.

Entry of cruel summer in our lives…

A few days later, our elder brother with greedy desire wanted to do something bigger than the business of grocery and oil mill. Therefore, he decided to establish a rice mill. So, to draw money he took loan of Rs. 4,000 from a businessman by keeping our house documents as a collateral without informing anyone. He also went Hyderabad and took necessary permissions. He collapsed our old cattle barn and built two big sheds.

Till then it was OK. But all of a sudden, that trail failed. Due to depression, he started drinking alcohol. Loan interest was increasing on one side.

This was a shock to our father who was already tensed about the marriages of his daughters.

The pawnbroker who gave loan filed a case in the court since the loan was not paid on time.

I remember my father travelling on a bicycle for 13km long, to compromise the pleader over there. On every go, he used to take bundles of notes. Years had passed. The loan of Rs. 4000, now increased to Rs. 24000. There were no ways to pay the total. Even our business had down fall. My father's mental situation was worse. Elder son who was expected to reach higher positions, now got addicted to alcohol.

Me and my younger brother were kids. I was nineth standard then. And two daughters reached the age of marriage.

Our well-wishers, relatives adjusted money to us by sending Rs. 200 or Rs. 500. Our father was confused and he filed IP in court.

One day, officers from court came to our home and declared confiscation of our house. They ordered us to vacate immediately. They brought all our items out of our house and kept them in the middle of street.

It took a day for them to vacate the entire house. Because our house was very big. This was an unforgettable and unlucky day in our lives.

The village gentlemen made their hearts spacious. They sold our tile-roofed house which was a part of 3 assets of our father. And they signed an agreement to pay that total to moneylenders.

By the same day evening, the problem was solved. Court officers left our house. Neighbors helped us in bringing the items inside again.

Elder son left the house and he was not found. My third sister's husband came front and stood beside out father. Old house was sold to Chowdary. We made little changes to our godown and made it livable.

Our shelter shifted to our godown.

What happens if a ship which travelled in the spacious river, gets into a small canal?

I felt the same kind of narrowness.

Our house had seen two generation grow in it. Our paternal uncle, aunties, maternal uncles all of their families used live in that house. About 30 marriages took place. In a house where numerous ceremonies, programs, worships and festivals took place, now turned to be a graveyard.

Those rooms became empty.

This house was built long before I took birth. Our father and grandmother wished to live their rest of life in this house only. But unfortunately, that desire was burnt into ashes.

Everyone has an emotional bonding with the village where they grew and house where they spent long time. One cannot convey his/her feelings if

the house is sold or demolished all of a sudden. Same situation was ours.

In addition to that, Poverty started playing with us. Not one, we faced many such miserable situations. Our sister used to provide tuition and also, she used to stitch clothes. With one rupee or one and half rupee of money gained by her, we used to meet our required necessities.

10 children. 7 of them were daughters. Useless elder son. In fact, his life was full of miseries only. His mother died when he was just a baby boy. Later brought up by his stepmother. His life was unaware of love. He only knows working.! Working hard!! This was my father's lifestyle before 40 years and after 20 years of my birth.

Once upon a time, we used to donate our textbooks after completion of course to a boy behind our house. But now, we had to borrow books from them.

College life also had the same situation.

I used to go to my college by having stomach full of water instead of food. Eating the food shared by friends. Wearing my friend's shirts. This was my situation.

After college, I joined a small job in a cycle stand in the railway station. Doing wiring work by helping electricians in leisure times. Delivering telegrams on cycle if any known postman was on holiday. Collecting money in a finance company. Not one, but I used to work for what so ever job I get.

Struggle for existence…

For about eight years, I struggled for existence. I used to do any kind of work. I worked as an office boy, chit collector, telegram messenger, receptionist in lodge, demonstrator at Birla science Centre Hyderabad, winding supervisor in Vijay electricals, editor of a monthly magazine in Saraswati shishumandir and as an artist in Eenadu. Finally, after becoming the deputy editor, effect of bad luck became mild.

After a few years, I came to know that our old house was kept for sale. We tried to buy it. But it costed Rs. 3.75 lakhs in the days of 1998. My salary was too less so as to buy the house. So, I gave up.

Our mother, father and grandmother tried till their last breath. But couldn't succeed in doing so. Finally, in 2000, I came to know that the house was again kept for sale.

This time the rate of house increased from Rs. 3.75 to Rs. 10 lakhs. However, me and my younger brother strongly decided to buy the house at any cost. We got 3.5 lakh from provident fund loan. Our sisters also helped with their share of money. So, at last, after 30 years, we were able regain our ancestral house. We were extremely delighted at that time.

We repaired and brought its old glory back.

Performing the House warming ceremony in the same house which

was built by our grandfathers, is a feeling of huge happiness. In the gracious presence of sisters, aunties, and uncles, our House warming ceremony was carried out successfully.

Everyone appreciated me and my brother for making our father's dream come true.

This had happened ten years ago. I had sold my share in this house to my brother and built a new house in Hyderabad.

I felt sorrowful after seeing our old house demolishment. But it was mandatory for a new outcome.

I felt my grandfathers in heaven, might had also wept after seeing that scenario.

I love our house. That's why I am mad about own house.

With the same interest, I decided to build a house in Hyderabad.

Let's go to our Parnashala

In The Ramayana *(Ramayana is an ancient Indian epic, composed some time in the 5th century BCE)* Lord Sri Rama orders Lakshmana to build the ashram in a plane area where plenty of water is found and availability flowers, fruits, tubers and honey will be high. Since the forest has the mobility of snakes and wild animals, the construction of house should be more protective and spacious.

Presently, our house was built in 122 yards. It is a duplex building with required spaciousness.

Since our location is nearer to a reservoir, there is no scarcity of water. However, we dug our own bore well. The ground water levels are also high in this region since there are farm fields outside our colony.

But our desired characteristic flats were not found. However, our builder Raja tried his best to construct our house in rectangular shape. We left some space for the plantation of trees.

I still remember how we struggled ourselves in the rented houses for 20 long years. We had to change our address in Bank account book, Voter Identity card and Aadhar card every time we shifted to another house. But finally, we had built our house.

Actually, Lakshmana had built their house with bamboo and covered the roof with Jand leaves (Jammi leaves). So that it creates cool temperature. And he built the walls with mud. But now a days, instead of bamboo, bricks and cement along with steel rods are used for construction. Cement is synthesized by heating the lime stone (Calcium Carbonate) with other chemical ingredients including Gypsum (Calcium Sulphate), Aluminum oxide etc.

In fact, building houses by burning the soil is against to Hindu Sanatana Dharma and there were no records of such constructions also. Bricks

are made by burning the mud blocks. Which implies burning the soil. Even elders advise not to build with bricks.

But time and generations were changed. We have to look forward by begging pardon to our mother earth.

Two doctors had come.. I too came out of memories..

They gave a slight stroke with a small hammer on my knees. Some vibrations came out of it.

And then with the sharp side of the hammer, they scratched from my sole to above. With that action, my nerves from sole to head felt sensitive. I was about to fold my leg. Since the nurse caught me tight, it wasn't possible. That sensation lasted for two minutes.

Later, one of them put his hand on my forehead. In fact, I felt amazed and happy for that soothing touch.

If doctors and staff can show minimum interest, it is certain that the patient will recover for sure.

"Then…" I was about to ask something.

But they went out, speaking to each other.

It seemed as if I was an experimental specimen and those as students who learn experimenting.

It's true. Such experiments are done on patients.

Perhaps, there are no clinical trials specially.

No matter whether it is India or Beijing.

Chapter 10

An article in news portal shocked the world

That was about the reporters missing in Wuhan

Anything can occur at any time in China. In fact, it is a mysterious kingdom with a dark rule. I think it's not surprising to witness such missing of reporters who were in research about Corona origin.

Fang Bin and Chen Qiushi who were reporters in China, decided to showcase the dramatic situations happening in Wuhan. They used to post videos about Wuhan which had no connection with the rest of the country. They had provided essential news about the pathetic conditions in Wuhan. But later, they disappeared suddenly.

Beijing is known for suppressing its opposers. They took at most care in not letting the news about the virus spread to the world outside. A Human rights researcher claimed that China's behavior was not so surprising.

Fang Bin and Chen Quishi wanted to provide the news on the drastic crisis occuring in the capital of Hubei province, Wuhan. Thousands of people watched the videos they posted in social media. Unexpectedly, their channels went dumb. Their followers in social media worried and shocked since there was no news from them.

Fang Bin…

Fang Bin was a businessman in Wuhan, who used to post videos of situations occurred due to Corona. He posted his first video on 25th January in YouTube. Chinese government had prohibited that video. Still, it was available through Virtual Private Network (VPN). He used to telecast various regions of the city by roaming. Those videos used to get 1000 views. On 1st February, a video showing the 8 dead bodies carried in a van went viral. This video got 2 lakh views. Fang bin claimed that the policemen entered his house on the same day to enquire him about the video.

They warned and released him. Lastly, on 9th February, he posted a video of 13 seconds duration. People agitated on govt behavior. They seemed to make slogans saying that authority must be given to people. Since then, his account went silent. He disappeared. This remained as a mystery.

Chen Quishi…

Chen Quishi worked as Human Rights advocate earlier. Later he

became a video journalist. He had earned a good name as a Human Rights activist. He became even more popular after covering the Hong Kong agitations occurred in August 2019. He was harassed due to that video coverage. He even experienced severe troubles from Chinese officers in reaching his homeland. He was followed by 7 lakh people in his Chinese social media accounts. But officers deleted all his accounts. Still, he did not compromise. Last October, he created his YouTube account. At present, his channel was subscribed by about 4 lakh people and his Twitter account consists of about 2 lakh 65 thousand followers. He strongly decided to visit Wuhan and wanted report the awful conditions occurring in Wuhan. "I use my camera only to capture realties. I hereby promise that I will not conceal the truth". These were his last words in his first YouTube video.

He visited various hospitals in Wuhan and spoke to the patients after observing the situations out there. He knew that his mission will lead him to danger. He said that the prohibitory orders were too harsh and accounts of people who shared those videos were getting closed by the officers. A video was posted on 7th February in Chen's Twitter account. Since then, he was also disappeared.

What was the response of ruling authorities…?

As usually, Chinese officials remained calm and quiet in this issue. No announcements were made on those two reporters missing. Patric P`oon, researcher at Amnesty International, stated that there was no clarity, whether they were arrested or forcibly hidden somewhere.

Actually, Chinese officials warned the doctor who firstly cautioned about corona in December, not to spread fake news. Later, the doctor had also died due to the same virus. People outraged about his death on social media. Shocked Chinese officials started censoring criticisms raised in social media about the doctor's death.

Four years of imprisonment for a lady journalist

A lady journalist was imposed four years of imprisonment since she had covered the news about Corona spread in Wuhan. She revealed all the unknown matters to the world about the severe situations in Wuhan hospitals. Even during the SARS virus outbreak in 2003, Wenchuan earth quake in 2008 and the Tianjin explosion in 2015, China did not let any information go out. It had shut the mouths of people. Human Rights Officer Yaki Wang Alleged on Chinese government. She opined that China should learn respecting human rights, provide freedom of information, maintain transparency and ultimately it should facilitate in prevention of disease rather than hiding all these.

Chapter 11

Srinivas called me early in the morning..

He asked about my well-being..

He said all of them were worrying about me. My heart was wet. He was sad that situations were not suitable to come and see me.

Yes! Now, everyone's goal is the same.

"How can I save myself?" this was the only question that was roaming in all minds.

Corona virus was expanding rapidly. COVID-19 cases now reached lakhs. 5 lakh people lost their lives. America had recorded the largest number of cases. It witnessed 1.5 lakh deaths. India was also experiencing the same scenario. Lakhs of cases were recorded and thousands of deaths took place.

Answers and suggestions to the question- How can I save myself? were heard.

Expert doctors suggested frequent washing of hands with soap.

Corona virus is spread through coughing. While coughing, the tiny water particles which contains virus, may enter into others while they are breathing. It can also spread even if we touch the place where the particles had fell down. Later, we might touch our eyes, nose or mouth so that the virus can enter our body too.

We can control virus spread by maintaining hand kerchief or tissue paper so that we can cover our mouth while coughing and by maintaining social distance. While few experts stating masks won't give positive results, most other experts suggested the use of masks.

The effects of the virus will be much intensive.

Corona virus affects lungs. It starts with fever, dry cough and suffocation in breathing. Victim gets continuous cough. Sometimes it continues for an hour. Like this, victims get effected three times in 24 hours.

Body temperature crosses 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Body will either warm or cold. Some of the victims will start shivering. Throat experiences burning sensation. Headache also comes out. There might be loose motions. Taste and smell senses might be lost. Normally, it takes 5 days to observe symptoms. Scientists stated that it can even take more than 5 days for the symptoms' outcome.

Details, photos, videos of this new disease went viral in main media and also social media. This extraordinary spreading of virus and its symptoms effected the people with very sensitive mind.

Mainly the videos from China were frightening people. People over there were falling down as birds. They were losing consciousness before they were being lifted up. some of them closed their doors by fixing nails so that infected people will not enter. Lakhs of deaths in China. A photograph of a Van dumping dead the bodies in Italy. All scenes created a massive terror in people.

A Punjabi in Delhi, committed suicide by jumping from 5th floor out of corona fear. This was not the one. Many such incidents that frightened people came into light in places of Hyderabad, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh etc.

The most sorrowful incident took place in Chittoor district...

Balakrishnaiah committed suicide by assuming his normal illness as corona virus. He was suffered with stomach ache and throat ache. But more than these aches he was distressed a lot with the corona news in social media and news channels.

On 5th February, Balakrishnaiah came to visit his paralyzed uncle who was taking treatment. Balakrsihnayya wished to consult doctor since he was suffering from stomach ache and throat ache from many days. But this turned to be a curse.

Doctors conducted blood and urine tests and prescribed medicine after identifying urethral infection, mouth ulcer in his body. They advised him to wear a mask so that ulcer intensity will be less. After hearing the complex words like ulcer and virus, he decided that he was infected with COVID-19.

His son Balamurali was helpless. He said that his father warned all of them seriously not to meet him. Though they tried to convince Balakrishnaiah, he never listened there words instead he threw rocks on them not to come near to him. Most tearful deed was Balakrishnayya blackmailed his family that he would cut his throat if they wish to meet him. Balakrishnaiah was deeply worried about his family and village. He did not want to spread virus to people. So, he restricted himself.

Balakrishnaiah and Lakshmi Devi couple had one son and two daughters. While daughters continuing studies, son completed his graduation and was working as village volunteer. Doctors recognised that Balakrishnaiah was suffering from Gastro enteritis and he underwent surgery three years ago. They also told that before death, he had Hyper tension. "Balakrishnaiah had no diabetes problem. He was not habituated to alcohol and smoking either. Clinical tests showed Urethral infection and Mouth ulcer. These was not a big matter and can be cured by medicine. But he worried unnecessarily. After doctors told him about Urethral infection and Mouth ulcer and wearing a mask, he confirmed himself that he was infected by virus and was concerned mentally", explained Dr. Penchalaiah, DMHO of Chittoor.

Balakrishnaiah reached his village after consulting doctors. His wife told, that he used to maintain distance and spoke very little to them after com-

ing to village. "He kept a cloth covering his mouth and threw rocks on those went to meet him. He told, that he was infected with COVID-19 and warned not to meet him. and he not even let me and my daughters also. Instead, he shouted at us warning, "you will also die". On Monday early in the morning, he left us in house and lastly, he was seen hung to a tree in the agricultural field", Lakshmi Devi said.

No one responded to Phone calls…

"Sir! There is no need of a virus for a man to die. speaking complex language which is not understandable for patients is enough to kill a person. It happened in our father's issue too. No doctor in that hospital speaks our native language. But all the patients who come for treatment are from rural areas only. Though, the doctors were familiar about the patients, they don't even try to speak clearly. Everything was spoken in English only. Corona prevailed all over the world. Sir! what can our father understand if you advise him to wear mask in these horrifying circumstances where news about corona was spread all over? Not the virus, but it was the doctors who created fear in our father", Balamurali alleged.

He also said that he dialled all the govt tollfree numbers for two hours after finding his father. But no one responded. He contacted Corona Nodal officer for counselling his father. But that officer neglected carelessly by saying, "your father did not go for either China or Japan right! Nothing will happen". He also called 100. "Our duty is only to control quarrels and fights, not these kind of cases", they said.

Crores of innocents, illiterates, lakhs of irresponsible leaders, officers. I couldn't sleep after thinking about these people and the upcoming tragic troubles.

There was a perfect reason for Balakrishnaiah's fear. Yes! This virus symptoms, its spread and treatment were not so ordinary as we think.

Inhumane behaviour of Society

The world is covered with clear confusion and fear. Cases were increasing day by day. Though many of the patients were getting cured, people were still surrounded by fear. While government making precautionary advertisements and all, people were losing their common sense and they were burring humanity in the society. Corona infection not only making people ill physically but also mentally with much more effectiveness. Central govt had introduced a new caller ringtone. It started creating awareness in people that the fight should be against the disease but not against its victims. But these words were limited to advertisement only. The manner in which victim is treated from the day of virus infection to the funeral had created doubt whether humanity was alive or not. More than their illness, the patients were weeping about the way how people were treating them. A young boy left an

old woman alone after knowing she was infected with virus. Many elder people had lost their jobs and went to their native places. There were people who did not allow them to enter inside.

The area where a person is found to be virus infected is declared as containment zone (Red zone) with 3 km of range from the place of infection. Sprinkling chemicals, closing roads became common. Police and municipal workers requested citizens not to come out. For instance, they announced that they will bring the necessary items like milk, fruits and vegetables directly to their house doors. Police had to catch all the people who were in contact with the infected patient which is a riskier and hard task. Their services are immeasurable. They used all their brain to spot out suspected people. They utilized GPS, Google earth etc. one of my friends suggested me to maintain a record of people whom I had met in this period so that it will be helpful in future. However, I didn't understand this mess of contact list while the govt had already implemented lockdown and cautioned not to come outside.

Transportation of patients in Garbage collecting Vans

This evil pandemic was not only killing people but also humanity which is scarce now a days. People were gazing suspiciously if coughed or sneezed or seen ill. Such people were sent away from the crowd. Three persons in a colony were infected with corona virus. According to the medical protocol, they must be taken in ambulance or any govt vehicles 108 or 104. But cruelly, they were carried in a garbage dumping van. How inhumane these people are?

No men available for the funeral..

People were terribly scared to put a step forward to the direction where someone is dead. No four people were found to carry out the funeral activities of a dead person. Though, Courts had ordered to carry out the funeral ceremonies ethically and traditionally, many cruel incidents had occurred due to the negligence of officers and medical staff.

Even more atrocious incident had taken place where dead bodies were thrown in to the burial pits mercilessly. The dead had to experience unethical farewell due to this cruel corona. Hearts were burnt after seeing the viral video in which 18 dead bodies were thrown carelessly into the burial pits.

Chapter 12

To which civilizations this will lead..?

As governments feared, Now came the most difficult problem than virus spread and patients' control- "Migrant workers". This became the biggest problem which was not faced by any governments in the history of independent India.

Implementing lockdown for many days due to shortage of work and being unaware of the lockdown end, migrant workers enrouted to their native places with luggage. Not thousands, but lakhs of people started their journeys. That too by walk.

Once a student asked an expert Anthropologist- "What can be identified as a symbol of civilization in the ancient human lifestyle?".

Anthropologists or Historians estimate history of centuries by excavating in few specified regions.

Generally, we assume pots, clay utensils, rock tools, iron axes etc as symbols for civilization.

But that Anthropologist told that the place where broken yet sticked femur bone is found, from there the human civilization flourished.

It's surprising. Isn't it?

He gave a long explanation after asking the reason for his answer.

For any animal, survival becomes too difficult if its femur bone gets broken. It cannot run for saving its life. It cannot hunt or find food and drink water by reaching any river since it can't move.

At last, it becomes food for other animals. It takes much time for the bone to stick naturally. Until then, no animal can survive without food and water.

But human himself being a social animal, has the facility to live in groups. Humans can help one another in times of adversities. Actually, how can this be related to femur? You're thinking the same right! There exists the real civilization.

Finding a broken yet sticked femur bone, what does it imply? It implies that someone had helped the injured person by taking him to a safe place and nourished till the wound got cured.

This is the first step to civilization. Which means civilization flourishes only when such mutual cooperation is seen in humans.

But after seeing present conditions, a doubt was raised in my mind- are

we civilized? Not letting doctors into houses who are there to fight against the pandemic and attacking on doctors and nurses in hospitals, obstructing to bury dead bodies in cemeteries and quarrelling with people. What's all this?

The condition of our hospitals was even worse and too terrible. Patients were losing their lives on roads while roaming around hospitals. was this the manner how govt staff gets responded?

What kind of life style are we adapting?

And the situation of migrant workers was a big tragedy. Cruel nature of not helping them. Ordering them to vacate. Where did all these manners had come from?

It was inhumane that governments though implemented lockdowns but did not plan anything about migrant workers.

No work, no food. People had walked miles to reach native places by forming larger groups along roads. The young, the old and even pregnant ladies had to move on. This was heart sinking. How pathetic the situations were? Was this a sign of civilization?

Those hands were habituated for any hard work. They are hard workers who spend their sweat to live however. In fact, they had the ability to face any calamity. But this silent hazard defeated them with fear.

The city, for which all the migrant workers served since all these years, had not rescued when they needed its help. How atrocious is this? It is the biggest mistake of governments not planning any facilities for the migrant workers. Apart from all these brutalities, there were people who denied migrants to enter the village. They even did not let them to take shelter at the peripheries of the village.

I remembered the famous poet and philosopher saint Kabir's words.

"Buraa jo dekhan main chalaa, buraa na miliyaa koy

Jo dil khojaa aapnaa, mujh saa buraa na koy"

(I went in search of baddie but found no one. After searching in my mind, I found no one as bad as myself)

I think everyone gets this same answer if questioned ourselves with honesty. If such answer wasn't come, then we are not humans. We shall not assume ours as civilization. We are just cave-creatures living in some so-called groups.

Pregnant Women travelled by walk to reach their villages

Vakeel, a worker in a factory in Uttar Pradesh lost his job and he had to vacate his rented house. Since no alternative was left for him, he had started his journey to his native village by walk. He had travelled 200 plus km long with his pregnant wife. They had not eaten anything because all the food stores across the national highway were closed then. Luckily, after reaching

the Shohrab gate near Meerut, some local people had given him money and helped him by informing to the police. The police responded positively and made necessary arrangements for their journey.

Partition of British India, 1947- the greatest tragedy…

British India was divided in two countries- India and Pakistan. People in the various regions of the Indian sub-continent had to migrate to their desired country. While most of the Muslims migrated to Pakistan, all the Hindus migrated to India. This was recorded as the biggest migration that took place on earth. It was also recognised as the most violent migration happened ever.

This was a line scratched on the throat of humanity with knife called religion by the White men.

In one word, it was an eviction. The Radcliffe line *(The Radcliffe Line was the boundary demarcation line between the Indian and Pakistani portions of the Punjab and Bengal provinces of British India)* changed the fate of two and a half crore people. The world's biggest tragedy of migration occurred while religion became a mania and humanity got burnt into ashes.

Peoples had to travel for days carrying old people in chairs, pregnant ladies in cots, crying children in bullock carts, tangas, with huge luggage. Exhausted faces with hungry stomachs and worried lives. That scenario was terribly horrible till today.

They used to travel in small groups which expanded up to eight miles. Around one crore and a half or two crore people migrated from India to Pakistan and vice versa.

Some of them were infected with diseases in the journey. While some died due to selfishness of others. One can watch the documentaries in YouTube, produced by BBC under titles like "India burns" etc.

This migration remained as a symbol of violence. Chased murders and rapes became common. Around 75,000 people were affected says Urvashi Butalia in her book, "Other side of the silence". She also belongs to the effected Punjabi family. Stories written by Saadat Hasan Manto reflects the tragedy of partition. It agonizes us after knowing that people threw babies into wells due lack of energy and the old are left in the middle of journey with no mercy. 22 lakhs of people were not found after the end of that long tragedy.

Now, after all these years, may not that much of tragic but such scenario was seen. These questions the progress of our development and it's removing the cover of civilization.

The uprooted families should rebuild their disturbed lives. They will be subjected to rejection from others. They will hate others. They will lead life in fear, thinking any other stronger power might again destruct them. They will build fences behind the weakened doors to save themselves.

13 Chapter

WhatsApp Calculations.. Facebook estimations..

The born shall die on some or the other day. Every organism including human dies only once. Though it is dreadful, there will be no pain after death. This fact is independent, whether you are theist or atheist. Do you know what real death is? Living life by thinking about death every day, every hour and every minute for about three months.

Common people were horrified a lot. While some asked, "how to clean vegetables?", other told that they were using salt to clean vegetables. I remembered a WhatsApp video sent by a friend, saying that children who came to play in their apartments were sanitizing their hands for every 5 minutes. Sanitizers were kept in offices for sanitizing their hands for every 10 minutes.

Few Americans warned that hills of corpses will rise in future. Some estimated the second wave of corona. WhatsApp calculations and Facebook estimations terrified people.

Hearts will fade out after seeing the way of capturing infected people in Wuhan city and spraying of germicide chemicals everywhere with monster machines. Medical staff and the police were seen as astronauts since they covered themselves with plastic wear (PPE kits).

14 days of Incubation..

The World Health Organization recommended 14 days of incubation to identify the symptoms of corona in the infected individuals.

Most of the people were cured by taking enough rest and Paracetamol tablets. But they had to go for hospitals if there was suffocation in breathing. Doctors provide treatment with ventilator according to the damage occurred for lungs. One must consult Govt Health volunteer or contact Helpline numbers given by Govt if you are unable to do daily works because of severe illness. Government was campaigning widely so as to inform citizens to make immediate use of 104, 108 emergency numbers If there was difficulty in breathing, speaking.

Corona infected patients were provided oxygen through face masks or pipes by admitting them Intense Care Units (ICU). If the intensity of disease is more, then ventilator is used to provide oxygen.

In accordance to the statistics, the death rate was comparatively less in the infected people. This was a bit pacifying for the world. The death rate was

only between 1 and 2. This was less than the death rate in the different areas like road accidents, domestic violence, pollution, malaria, diarrhoea etc. But due to the wide spread and advertisement on corona virus, it created mass panic in people.

6 percent of 56,000 infected people were affected with severe illness according to a study conducted by the WHO. The probability of death was high in people who had lung diseases and malfunction of organs. 14 percent of such people were seen with severe symptoms of virus and they had experienced difficulty in breathing. Remaining 80 percent of infected people had primary symptoms like fever, cough etc. These might lead to Pneumonia. There was a chance of severe symptoms for the old who were already suffering with Asthma, Diabetes and heart related diseases. Deaths of men were more than women. It was told that the variation in X and Y chromosomes, was the reason for more deaths of a specific gender.

Scientists say, virus can also be transmitted through air

Corona virus cannot transmit through air media like most other hazardous viruses. This was indeed a good luck. But it will be become dangerous, if one moves closely with the infected people. According to the report given by UK National Health Department, maintaining contact with infected people implies spending 15 minutes in the distance less than two meters.

The World Health Organization came saying that virus can only be transmitted to others by the droplets came out after coughing or sneezing. Now they changed their words. Initially, it told that COVID droplets cannot float in air for longer time and condenses on any surfaces. Hence, it recognised washing hands cleanly as primary preventive measure. But 239 scientists of 32 countries said that were evidences of virus transmission through air. Virus droplets can float in air for hours, they said. WHO also agreed with them. "Virus spread can be expected in crowdy regions and closed places. However, serious examination of evidences is required. If this becomes true, then the world has to face much more adversities. And the measures on how to control virus spread, also be changed accordingly. This may lead to strict maintenance of social distance and wide usage of masks", WHO reported.

Mass advertisements on such minimum precautions were running in mainstream and social media.

14 Chapter

Factories of Corona virus in our Body

One of our senior colleagues was sharing news updates in WhatsApp groups about Corona virus. New researches, new innovations were seen. A video created by BBC gave exclusive information about Corona virus.

Virus is an infective agent that enters in our body cells and starts controlling our cells. It spreads into the cells in throat, windpipe and lungs. Then, it transforms them as Corona virus factories where its population increases through rapid replication. It initiates attack on remaining parts of the body. This is the primary phase. We will not feel ill in this phase. Sometimes symptoms won't come out. Doctors declared that the duration of the outcome of symptoms vary from the process of virus infection.

Initially, there will be dry cough due to corona virus. However, after some days, patient gets effected with cold cough also. The dead lung cells might come out in the form of cold cough. Treatment will be given to these symptoms by providing rest and high dosage medicines like Paracetamol. There will be no necessary of hospital treatment. This phase continues for a week. Many patients will recover in this duration. Since, there immune system becomes strong and provides resistance to virus. While in some people, it gets intensified. Few studies says that runny nose, cold etc symptoms might affect the patient in this phase.

Two tests were available

for the identification and determination of this pandemic.

1. Antigen test: One can know whether a person is infected with virus or not and the probability of virus spread if he/ she is infected. Presently, this was conducted only for patients with severe illness.

2. Antibody test: England ordered to conduct this test for more people as possible. We can know how many people were infected without corona symptoms. These two tests are very important to face Corona virus spread effectively.

1.How many people were infected?

This was the primary question and an important one too. Though many positive COVID-19 cases were recognised, it was just a small part in the entire positive cases which were not recognised yet. Since, the symptoms outcome was late, it became a terrific chaos. By the help of antibody test, it was

easier to identify virus. If this can be done much efficiently, we can estimate the range of virus spread.

2. Is this really hazardous?

It is impossible to determine the death rate without knowing the exact number of cases. At present, it is estimated that only one percent of infected people were dying.

3. Extreme level of symptoms

Fever and dry cough are the main symptoms of corona virus. In some cases, throat dryness, headache, vomits, watery bowel movements etc were seen. Few of them lost the sense of smell. Studies revealed that People might get infected without their notice.

4. Children had the low virus spread

Corona virus will also infect children for sure. But the symptoms will be less. As compared to other age groups, death rate of children was even less. This was a bit pacifying aspect.

Never mess with animals

Scientists were pointing at our lifestyle as a reason for present day situations. Diseases were often infected to humans by the means of deforestation and capturing of forest land. Human transformed the environment completely. As a result, the Biodiversity getting imbalanced. Prof Kate Jones of a University college in London, stated that this behaviour of human was creating fear of various diseases.

Mainly, organisms like rats, act as vectors disease factors. Since biodiversity was lost, situations that increase the relation between human and wildlife might come into effect. As a result, the chance of attack on people by various types of bacteria, virus, parasites might also increase.

Nipah virus outbreak in Malaysia around 1999. This virus was spread to a pig farming centre in a forest, by fruit bat. Pigs consumed the half ate fruits by fruit bats. There were about 250 workers in that pig farming centre. All of them were infected with the disease. Hundreds of them lost their lives. Corona death rate was just one percent whereas Nipah virus had death rate between 45-75.

Meat markets play a vital role in the spread of diseases from animals to humans. About 4 new diseases were discovered in every year. Not only in Asia and Africa, but also in the countries of America and Europe, said Prof Fevre.

We were too careless about the food we eat, the materials we use. Prof Fevre told, "The more we use natural resources, the more will be their production for money. Therefore, we must think about the effects of over usage of natural resources".

Few more hazards from animals

Scientists had been warning us for creating a dreadful weather in which diseases can be transmitted from animals in worldwide. This situation becoming more rapid since human evacuating the nature. This issue came into light in the researches done by the medical experts while studying about the origin of new diseases.

We had faced five hazards. This is sixth..

"In the past 20 years, we had to encounter SARS, MERS, Ebola, Avian influenza, swine flu, COVID-19 (now) etc viruses", opined Prof Mathew

Belis of Liver pool University.

He also told, "Till now, we faced five bullets. This is the sixth one. But not the last one. That's why we had to research on diseases related to wild animals". He created a hypothetical sample of identification system with the help of his colleagues. This system analyses the wide range of data base of wild animal diseases which we knew before.

This system examines thousands of bacteria, parasites, viruses known by science till date. And identifies the proofs related to its spread on respective species of organisms.

Identification of disease factors will lead the researches in a correct path. So that we can find the precautions and ways of treatment to the respective disease before its outbreak.

However, the whole world was ready with a strong determination to win over death and corona to survive in anyway. This is the present goal of everyone.

Life is all about surviving even after knowing that we'll die someday.

16 Chapter

Did Corona come out before December in Wuhan?

Harvard researchers had seen the satellite images of Wuhan city and stated that between August and December, there was a huge increase in traffic at the hospitals of Wuhan city. It was surprising to know that many people searched online about the treatment for the symptoms of cough and diarrhoea during this period.

But China did not accept this saying this as a meaningless research.

For the first time in November, it clarified about the existence of virus.

On December 31st, it informed WHO about the sudden rise in the Pneumonia cases and stated that reason was not known yet.

Dr. John Brownstein who led the latest research told ABC news that before the epidemic was identified, already a virus was spread widely.

What did researches reveal?

Researchers observed the surrounding regions of hospitals with the help of commercial satellite images. They studied the situations at hospitals in August 2018 and August 2019. In October 2018, 171 cars were parked in one of the biggest hospitals in Wuhan, i.e. TNU hospital.

At the same hospital, in the October 2019, the vehicle count increased to 285 which means 67 percent.

Searching the words related corona symptoms increased in China's search engine, Baidu. Dr. Brownstein told ABC news that this entire information was related to something which had happened in Wuhan at that time.

Hua Chunying, representative of China's External affairs ministry disagreed this research and quoted that this research as a comedy.

BBC Health Correspondent, Helen Briggs analysed this research with a great interest.

Even after six months, there was no clarity in the matter of timeline. Firstly, in December 2,019 cases were recorded in Wuhan market.

Wuhan market had no link with all the cases even after discovering the existence of virus. No proofs were identified to state that the virus transmitted from animals. There were evidences about virus spread even before a French doctor identified Corona virus symptoms in his patients.

This latest research had happened on the basis of satellite images and traffic at hospitals, search engine but not from direct witnesses. According to

that, we can find a clue to state that the virus symptoms came out in the starting Autumn.

Mystery was seen in everything Initial deaths in China

I had many doubts in this aspect.

I messaged my friend Srinivas who looks after International news. We chit-chatted for a while on this issue.

"What was the reason for the death of first two patients in Jin Yin Taan hospital in China?"

Lancet medical journal stated that they were smoking since long ago and their lungs were malfunctioned.

"First person was 61 years old. Pneumonia was increased terribly before he reached the hospital. Though he was given treatment with ventilator, his lungs were failed at last. His heart beat was stopped".

"After how many days he died?"

"After 11 days of admission in hospital"

"What was the situation of the second person?"

"He was 69 years old. He also had Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome. Even ECMO machine (artificial lungs) couldn't him help him. With intense Pneumonia and blood pressure, he died due to septic shock",

Srinivas told all these matters which were declared by China. But my disbelief was not faded yet.

I googled for some more details.

Scientists' hunt for the killer pandemic

Six months of research

Finding the origin of a pandemic is not an easy job to be done by a normal detective.

Scientists have to reach the place before the proofs get erased. And start hunting the killer pandemic after collecting the meta data so as to prevent it from attacking.

But though, there was an extraordinary effort internationally, corona virus kept increasing and killing thousands of people a day. In this duration of six months what did the doctors find in their researches.

First warning..

Understanding the origin of virus so as to estimate virus spread and its

effects is important. But corona virus was complex and tricky to understand.

While the new year was about to arrive, Dr. Lee Ven Liang was studying the seven quarantined patients in the emergency wards. Those patients were suffering from Pneumonia.

On 30th December, he cautioned his colleagues that this disease was similar to that of SARS second wave.

SARS was a kind of virus which is similar to Corona virus. In 2003, the SARS virus outbreak spread to 26 countries of the world and took 8000 lives. But this virus was not the second wave of SARS. In fact, it was the first wave of COVID-19.

Dr. Lee already warned his colleagues that this virus can transform as a Pandemic. But unfortunately, after three days, the policemen arrested him stating that he was spreading fake news.

34 aged Dr. Lee was infected with Corona virus after few days of his release. He was died on 7th February. He had a son and his wife was pregnant at that time.

Crime area…

Dr. Lee estimated that by the end of 2019 December, virus might take the form of a pandemic. Most of the patients were working in the Wuhan sea market. Doctors were the first people to identify this issue.

Fishes, snakes, wild animals etc were sold in the Wuhan sea food market. On 31st December, Wuhan Health Commission submitted its report since many cases of a strange virus were recorded. The very next day, Wuhan market was quarantined.

Scientists had the similar opinions that the mass virus spread had occurred in the market. But they were not sure about Wuhan market being the first place for virus outbreak.

All the samples taken from live animals and humans resulted positive COVID-19.

But Wuhan researchers told, that they had already identified such cases four weeks before the virus spread. Virus symptoms were already seen in a person on 1st December. Surprisingly, he did not have any relation with Wuhan market.

Virus had crossed the China borders before the record of first corona death on 11th January. It spread to Japan, South Korea, Thailand etc.

Then the hunt was started. Though, we were developed in Treatment and Technology, still remained a step back when compared to the velocity of the virus. COVID-19 had spread to 200 countries only in the span of six months and infected about 2 crores of population around the world.

Details of the Criminal Virus..

Immunology professor Christin Anderson says, "our first question- What is this?".

Virus transmits from animals to humans. Scientists research on how the virus spread widely?

Wuhan institute of Virology started its analysis on the mysterious virus in January. Their attempt was to codify the genetic sequence of the virus.

Usually, it takes months, sometimes years to analyse the genetic sequence of a virus. But Wuhan institute of Virology was able to publish the first genetic sequence of the COVID-19 by 10th January. Prof Anderson told, that this virus was similar to that of SARS up to 80 percent and it was a type of Corona virus.

The second question was, how to identify the virus infection? Third was, how to prepare vaccine? Answers to these questions might be found by the genetic sequence of the virus.

Prof Anderson also said that there were many evidences to the birth of virus from the bats. And he also told, it was a natural virus. But it was too difficult to know how it entered in humans.

Regional officers closed the laboratory of Prof Jung after 2 days of the publishing. And cancelled his research license. This created critical suspicion on China since no reason was announced officially on this issue.

Chapter 17

Track, Trace, Isolate

Scientists focused on the control and origin of the virus. They had followed two paths to know the mechanism of virus spread. Contact tracers started finding people who were assumed to be infected by virus and isolated them. On the other side, experts were chasing the genetic sequence to estimate the range of virus spread.

South Korea succeeded in controlling the virus spread with the help of well-trained contact tracers.

Initially, they thought that they had controlled most of the virus spread. But in the month of February, many people were infected in a single city. They identified a woman as the one and only super spreader of the virus spread in Daegu city.

She was resulted COVID-19 positive on February 19. Tracers recognised that she had met more than1000 people in just 10 days. All those people were isolated later.

In fact, she did not reveal her membership in a Church. It was the tracers who identified this secret and isolated all the people who were in contact to her.

Though some of the countries like South Korea were able to control the virus, it was still spreading rapidly in entire world.

What about the evidences?

It becomes too difficult to estimate the range of this strange disease. Scientists adopted a new method to know about the pandemic spread by the analysis of its genetic sequence. Prof Yong-Zhen Zhang was able to publish the complete genetic sequence of the COVID-19. He identified its developing mechanism. Since then, scientists around the world, came publishing the results of their analysis on the genetic sequence, in GISAID information centre.

With the help of the publication of thousand plus genetic sequences, they were also able to recognise the genetic mutations taking place in the virus. For suppose, if the genetic mutation of virus samples collected in New York resembles with the genetic mutation of the virus samples collected in Wuhan, then we assume that the virus was spread in the same time. By analysing the area of spread, we can identify date when did the virus spread from Wuhan to New York.

Scientists had published about 37,000 plus genetic sequences of the samples collected in the world wide. "We may not know how the virus was spread. But we can know most of the information for such questions with the help of Genome data", Dr. Emma Hodcraft said.

Mysterious links

Dr. Emma was leading the project team of "Next Strain". Their aim was to create awareness on epidemics by providing analytic pathogen genome data. They had discovered that all the samples which were collected in January, showed resemblance in genome data. The samples were collected from eight different countries namely, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Britain, America, China and Netherlands.

Initially it became difficult to identify the link between the spread in these countries. But through continuous analysis, they came to know that some of the Australians had travelled Iran before few days. At that time, there were no collected samples from Iran. However, Emma stated that they can prove the cases might had evolved due to the people who travelled to Iran or the people with in the country.

Finally, they came to know about Qom city where the virus had started spreading.

They said, "A number of genomes have been sequenced from patients reporting travel history to Iran. These genomes are all extremely similar, and indicate that the outbreak in Iran may be the result of a single transmission which has subsequently been transmitted to many other places. Note that there are no full genomes available from patients in Iran".

In this way, scientist made their best to estimate the silent virus spread with the help of Contact tracing and Genome tracking. But still they were a step behind Corona virus. They couldn't calculate its upcoming effects in various places in the world.

On the other hand, no symptoms were seen in few infected people. This was even tough when compared to the regular conditions. An important clue about this mystery was found in a small village in Italy.

Unnoticed virus infections.

Do you know the place where first COVID death in Italy, was recorded? It was surprising to know that it was a small village in the countryside. It takes one hour journey from Venice to reach that village which has 3000 population. On 21st February, the first COVID death in Italy was recorded in this village. Immediately, they implemented complete lockdown. Virus samples were collected from all the people irrespective of their status of infection. Most of them were tested positive. This made the scientists realize that the virus was spreading silently without exhibiting its symptoms.

This analysis played a vital role in the researches. Prof Lavezo said, "40 percent of the infected people don't know that they are carrying a deadly virus with them. While some of the people do not think about the safety of others. This was the biggest trouble in controlling the virus spread".

He also explained that people who had more symptoms won't come out of their houses. But the remaining people with less symptoms do not care about the virus. They will roam around and meet people.

Analyses estimated that the cases which had no symptoms would constitute 80 percent of the total cases. No cases were recorded in the children whose age was 10 years below. "we are not saying that the virus will not affect children. But we're surprised to know that a dozen children who lived with infected people were remained uninfected", Prof Lavezo said.

The main reason for the uncontrolled spread of virus was the ability of virus in hijacking the people as their vectors without their notice. From slight cough to deadly suffocation in breathing… How did this virus get an extraordinary strength to exhibit such terrible symptoms? According to Prof Lavezo's analysis, the question was, why did this virus was less intense towards children?

All these questions were answerless at present.

Hazardous composition..

Scientists discovered that the virus can enter our body only by through ACE-2 receptors located on the periphery of the body cells. These ACE-2 receptors were identified firstly in Prof Michael Farzan Laboratory for the first time during the SARS outbreak in 2003. The problem was ACE-2 receptors can be found in all the body parts including nose, lungs, intestines, heart, kidneys and brain. Hence, this was the reason for all kinds of symptoms in the infected people. If it infects the nose, then you will the sense of smell. in case it infects the lungs, you will get cough.

Prof Farzan also told that the virus infection was less in children. But this time, Prof Farzan had the evidences to prove his statement. He said that children have less no of ACE-2 receptors below the lungs. Therefore, children were less infected.

He also explained that the virus however can transmit from the children since they have large number of ACE-2 receptors located above the lungs. "This above path is responsible for the virus infection", he said.

Chapter 18

10 Vaccines set ready for Clinical Trails

The whole world experiencing the virus infection irrespective of country, creed, religion. When will this COVID-19 comes to end?

There were only two choices. While one was the Vaccine, the other was Herd Immunity. At present, there was no choice of Herd Immunity. All the expectations were kept on the vaccine only. About 150 teams of various organization worked hard on the preparation of vaccine. But only 10 vaccines reached to the phase of clinical trials.

Some more medicines

We knew already that pharmaceutic chemicals like Hydroxy quinine and Azithromycin are used against Corona. FDA had given permission to use Remedicivir medicine in treating patients whose has critical health.

Even Taiwan promoted the use of Remedicivir. India was also giving this medicine to critical cases. Drug Controller General of India approved Bharat Serums and Vaccines Limited company to provide Ulinastatin (used to cure blood infection due to toxins i.e. Sepsis) for the patients. This medicine will be given experimentally to the patients suffering from severe respiratory distress syndrome. Researchers of Imperial college London opined that Baricitinib, a kind of drug used for the diagnosis of Rheumatoid Arthritis, can also be used as an experiment on patients.

Eli Lilly Antibody treatment

Reputed Pharmaceutical company, Eli Lilly examined antibodies treatment. It had also gone for clinical trials with two types of treatments. Now third treatment was also set ready. The drugs used in the 3 types of antibodies treatment were actually the drugs used in the diagnosis of Cancer, Rheumatoid Arthritis, etc. These hinder the spike proteins which will be utilized by the corona virus to enter the body. As a result, the virus cannot progress further.

Fear of death might teach new habits to humans!

People had started maintaining personal hygiene and cleanliness around their surroundings. Volunteers had sprayed insecticides in parks, malls, streets where virus infection was intense. Offices, hospitals, shops,

restaurants were kept clean and neat on time to time. People begun wearing masks and face shields.

Good news for O blood group

A genetic testing organization called "23 and me", was conducting a study to find out the reason behind the various symptoms seen in people. Though this study wasn't finished, it found an interesting fact through the primary results obtained. The organization revealed that only 9-18 percent of people with O blood group were infected in the study conducted with 8 lakh people. Which means O blood group has less infection towards virus. However complete results weren't obtained till then. Another study conducted in march revealed the same results. While O blood group had less infection, type A blood group had more infection towards virus.

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Two people in the adjacent ward were discussing something

An elderly person was explaining very critically about the virus spread and lifespan of it when fell on any surface.

Rest of the people were listening it with panic amazement.

Lifespan of Virus on different surfaces

Centre for Disease control and Prevention pointed out that touching our face after making a contact with any material or any surface, cannot be considered as the principal reason for the virus spread. However, CDC, WHO and other health organizations came intimating people strongly to wash their hands frequently and sanitize the surfaces every time.

Yet there was no clarity on the lifespan of virus outside our body. But the studies conducted on other corona virus species like SARS, MERS etc, demonstrated that the virus can survive for about 9 days on the surfaces of metal, glass and plastic. And some of them can even survive for 28 days if the temperature is low. Corona virus can survive in any circumstances. A virologist of NIH America, named Neeltje van Doremalen conducted experiments for the first time on the lifespan of Sars-2 virus on various surfaces and published them in New England Journal of Medicine.

According to the journal, Corona virus remain alive in the form water droplets of cough. Generally, the size of bigger droplets is 30 times smaller than hair i.e. 1-5 micrometre. Virus can survive for some hours in stable air. Mainly, the virus which travel fast through droplets, resides on various surfaces. NIH study reveals that SARS-2 virus can last for 24 hours in cardboard and 2 or 3 days on plastic, stainless steel etc. Researches say, virus can survive for even more time period on the surfaces of door handles, laminated

furniture etc. He was narrating all these matters interstingly.

"sprinkling bleaching power would be enough for the virus to die... our CM told this already", a person exhibited his newspaper knowledge.

He continued again..

Yes! 62-71 percent Alcohol or 0.5 percent of Hydrogen peroxide bleach or 0.1 percent of Calcium Hypochlorite (Household bleaching powder) can be used as germicide to kill the virus in one minute. A study conducted by the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) revealed that a type of corona virus which was responsible for SARS-2, at 56 degree centigrade for every 15 minutes, 10000 virus cells can be killed.

Another listener asked, "Sir! how many virus cells can be found in a single droplet since you have told that virus can also be spread through cough droplets".

"No information was available for your question. But according to a research on Flu virus, it was revealed that some thousands of virus cells can be found in a droplet. However, it varies from one type of virus to the another".

"What would be the lifespan of this new virus?" another doubt.

He continued once again.

"Yet it was not clear. Rocky Mountain Laboratory, Virus ecology head Vincent Munister told- Since cardboard has natural absorbers, it makes the virus dry sooner than compared to plastic and metal. Therefore, we have to clean our hands and surroundings frequently", he said.

"Living relations with corona, this is the most heard phrase these days. However, it is not certain that it will stay with us forever. But threat remains sustained until proper treatment and vaccine come into availability. We must take precautions to protect ourselves from the virus. Though this seems to be menacing, it will not stay in our body like rest of the viruses like HIV, Hepatitis B and C. Mostly, it will vacate our body within 2 weeks" he ended up.

Security was getting eroded in these days..

While returning to home after his duty, my friend was chased by few strangers. He posted that he was able to escape from them while they were about to kill him. "Alas! I wonder still how many such incidents are there to be encountered", I thought.

It was evident- situations turned the worst. It might be true that an abnormal attitude comes out from humans when their future become terrible.

These are those days in which our safety might be eroded by our fel-

low humans.

Normal people were also lost their mental stability and started behaving madly. It might be due to the house arrest for two to three months, terror stimulating news and worst-hit economy on other side etc…

In addition to this, alcohol was making people to vomit out their frustration. Robberies, kidnaps and black mailings might also increase in the coming days. Thieves even stole in the midst of Delhi roads. I'd seen many such scenes in You tube. Police might get lot of work to go with.

★ ★ ★

"It was unfair for the Dragon in not intimating the world though familiar about the virus outbreak". The discussion was started early morning in the ward beside mine.

Their today's topic was about the sensational matters out came from Associated Press research.

"Did Donald Trump's words come true at last?", he suspected. And added again- "Did China hide about corona virus though it was aware of it before?".

Another gentleman started answering- "America's news organization, Associated Press (AP), says it's true. AP caught WHO's secret documents, Emails, Interviews. They printed a report based on the collected data and said that they had come to know some sensational matters from it. In accordance to the report, in the last year (2019) December, many patients had admitted in Wuhan hospitals due to a strange Pneumonia disease. On 27th December, Vision Medicals Organization examined their samples and identified that it was similar to SARS virus. Shi Zhengli, a virologist in Wuhan, was able to decode the Gene of virus by 2nd January 2020. But China neglected to share this information to the World. Chinese National Health commission commanded that no information related to the virus should go out of the country without their notice.

On 5th January, two more government laboratories decoded a virus caught in a Shanghai lab. Zenghli reported the government that it might be an epidemic. Actually, China hidden all the important data for the preparation of medicine and vaccine to the virus. finally, on 11th January, a Chinese lab posted the details of genetic data of the virus in virology website. Then the medical and health officers soon released the genetic sequence of the virus. Yet Chinese Government did not reveal this information to the world for another 2 weeks. Virus spread was increased by the time. AP told, that there would have been less Corona virus effect if China had shared the virus details on time.

Chapter 19

Doubts on India's preparation

India is known as the 2nd largest populated country in the world. But now, the question was- Will India be able encounter the virus spread or not? Many such doubts had arisen in people. Ultimately, those came true.

After china's announcement of first death and before 2 weeks when WHO declared this as an emergency, India's Health Minister Harsha Vardhan told, that they had started screening in airports by 17th January only.

By March 6, 31 cases were recorded in India in which 16 people had come from Italy.

Fear had evolved in people. Schools were given holidays. Some offices were closed temporarily since their employees got infected with Corona virus. Gradually, it spread across the country. Corona tests were conducted in all the airports and seaports, minister Harsha Vardhan said. Central govt facilitated isolation wards and training centres for health volunteers. It also increased lab centres across the nation.

N-95 masks exportation was stopped in order to make sure that there will be no scarcity in the country.

No clarity was seen in the number of infected people. Though, tests were performed in all airports and seaports, incubation period was between 14 to 24 days. Therefore, many suspicions rose up. Some argued that if Central Govt had implemented strict rules and tested the foreigners from various countries before the lockdown of 100 days, there would be less chances for the virus to enter India. However, the govt had a separate strategy in the initial stage. It used lockdown period effectively for getting ready with medicine, and pharmaceutical equipment etc.

In fact, India holds a record of Polio prevention.

National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP) in association with World Health Organization is famous for community surveillance and contact tracing. Now, there is a great need of these two strategies- community surveillance and contact tracing.

India also holds Influenza Surveillance Programme. Including H1N1, India has 4 flu viruses in it.

Virologists told, that they can say whether corona virus can spread or not by keeping the corona virus negative samples under Influenza Surveillance. Lalith Kanth, a specialist of epidemic diagnosis from Delhi, told, "We can provide quick diagnosis. Most of the COVID-19 infections are

simple ones".

India has a big challenge in facing the virus spread with an irregular Public Health System across the country. What if virus cases increase all of a sudden? Definitely, hospitals won't be sufficient for the patients. The better truth was that common man will not have access for masks, gloves, medicine, ventilators etc medical support. Jacob John said, it will be difficult for India to face virus spread in the ultimate level.

When compared to China, India was not able to implement strict lock-down and admit its patients in hospitals. So, it went creatively and made Trains as isolation wards. Delhi was first to use this facility.

Virologists insisted that patients should be taken in to hospitals only in case of intense infection. Less infected people should be diagnosed at their homes only. Even ICMR also following the same strategy due to large number of patients.

There is no proper health care data in recording the number of infections and deaths. A study conducted by Centre for Global Research, Toronto, said that only 77 percent of the total deaths were getting recorded and the doctors were unable to give precise data in most of the situations.

China opened its mouth for the first time

The country which was criticised for hiding the information of COVID-19, had now opened its mouth after all the international criticisms exposure. It admitted that the virus had spread in the December 2020. It also declared that the first virus case was identified at the end of December. It assumed this disease as "Pneumonia of Unknown cause".

In this process, Chinese official news agency Xinhua released a timeline of 38 pages. On 30th December, Wuhan Health Commission issued an urgent notification to the medical institutes. The notification instructed that the patients with Pneumonia of Unknown Cause must be provided with proper treatment. On 31st December, Municipal Commission made an announcement relating to the same kind of cases. It instructed people not to come out side or form groups since 27 people had got infected with virus. A mask must be worn while coming outside. From the very next day, it started giving daily updates. And it also informed WHO. On 23rd January, China imposed lock-down in the Wuhan city. However, 50 lakh people already left the city for Chinese New Year holidays.

Till now, 3,331 people had lost their lives due to corona. Health Commission informed that about 81,708 people were infected with virus in which 1,299 patients were still taking treatment and 77,078 patients were discharged. 82 thousand people had died *(2020 March report)* across the world due the rapid expansion of virus. John Hopkins University data revealed that about 14.31 lakhs of people were infected in 180 plus nations in the world.

Chapter 20

Epic destruction of corona virus in the body

Corona virus attacks the lungs first after entering into the body. Two researchers, namely Hualan Li of Yibin University and Vin Zhang Liyu of Xichaun University, announced that virus was attacking on the oxygen conductor- 'Haemoglobin' and hindering oxygen supply to the body. Corona virus's proteins like ORF-8, Surface Glyco protein were getting attached to the Haems above Haemoglobin.

Haem is an iron atom-containing compound of the porphyrin class. The above told proteins of corona virus- ORF-8 and Surface Glyco protein removes the iron atom in the Haems. Haemoglobin without iron atom is just like an empty capsule with no medical substance. Because, the Oxygen we breath binds to iron atom and gets circulated to entire body. If the iron atom is absent in Haemoglobin, oxygen cannot reach all the body parts.

This results the destruction. Oxygen levels gets decreased in the infected people. Victims suffer in breathing. Finally, doctors suggest ventilator. Chinese researchers says that the problem was not with the lungs, but it is with Red Blood Cells which were unable in supplying enough oxygen.

Kidneys release Erythropoietin hormone in the less supply of oxygen and signals the bone marrow to produce enough Red Blood Cells. Thus, it is the reason for Increase of RBC in the virus infected patients.

The free iron atom detached from haemoglobin is equal to poison. It roams across the body and results Oxidative damage. Which means increasing the number of harmful free radicals. Free radicals are unpaired electron containing species in search of an electron. So, these free radicals take electrons from the cells of any organ including heart and pancreas.

At last, the free radical after taking an electron turns into a compound or a molecule. But this makes much more free radicals in the cell which donated electron earlier. Free radicals can alter the DNA structure which is even more dangerous.

Chloroquine obstructs ORF-8 protein in attaching itself to Haemoglobin. Therefore, Chloroquine is used in the treatment of corona infected patients. Plasmodium algae which cause Malaria, also attacks on Haemoglobin.

However, algae are living organism whereas virus is a non-living organism. but both function in a same trend. That's why, Malaria medicine was able to cure corona infected patients, say the scientists. Since the malaria effected countries had already developed resistance to it, Corona virus

effect recorded less.

Masks can provide security only for 4 minutes

America's Centre for Disease Control (CDC) described that there will be "low risk" only for 4 minutes in face-to-face approach though we wear masks. If the distance is six feet, then the "low risk" duration will be only for 45 minutes. There will be low danger when someone walks or runs beside us. Maintaining social distance in places where light exposure is more can protect us from infection. Shopping has medium risk. Indoor spaces have high risk. Surfaces and external activities will have very low risk. But there will be high risk in AC shops, offices, schools and other work places though social distance is maintained.

Less spread due to the erstwhile effect of Malaria

Virus took lives of numerous citizens of America and other developed nations of Europe. But it was unable to transform into its ultimate destructive mode in India. Interesting analyses were heard on the low death rate and virus spread. The most heard was one that explained malaria effect as a reason for low date rate etc. This was also evident in countries of Asia and Africa where malaria effect had prevailed earlier.

Malaria had been affecting the tropical countries since centuries. However, people achieved resistance towards malaria with the help of genetic mutations in their genes. It is believed that the same resistance was protecting people from COVID-19 also. But the virus was showing its adverse effects in the countries located at temperate zones across the globe, i.e. America and Europe nations. An amazing research which strengthens this analysis, was conducted in China.

Does the Chloroquine medicine useful?

The demand for Chloroquine and Hydroxy Chloroquine was rapidly increased across the world.

Chloroquine is used to diagnose fever, headache during malaria disease. Few doctors had told that Chloroquine was able to restrict the corona virus in laboratory experiments.

Trials were started in America to use antibiotic medicine like Chloroquine, Hydroxy Chloroquine and Azithromycin at the same time in the treatment of COVID-19.

Former American president (2019), Trump mentioned the capability of Hydroxy Chloroquine. He also used the medicine. India was slightly threatened to export Hydroxy Chloroquine to America.

Though, WHO informed that there were no evidences to prove its

functioning in the treatment of virus, all the people sighted at this medicine.

Indian Health Ministry also suggested the use of Hydroxy Chloroquine. ICMR warned doctors to use limited amounts. Experts cautioned about the health hazards of this medicine- malfunction of kidneys and liver.

20 Nations including America, Britain, Spain and Chain conducted trials on this medicine. America's FDA, Germany, France granted permission to recommend Chloroquine medicines for COVID-19 victims. Still experiments and analyses were on progress. Bahrain was one of the first nations which recommended Hydroxy Chloroquine to its victims. Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia have also approved the use of this medicine.

Call to Modi ji in the midnight 12:15 am

"Sir! we needed Corona testing kits by tomorrow morning. But due to some logistical issues, the trucks carrying those kits were stopped in Mumbai and Nasik. We need them the most. Please help us"

- Orrisa chief minister Naveen Patnaik on phone call.

"Kits will reach you in the next 6 hours" - Modi ji promised.

Prime minister office made necessary arrangements after the phone call.

CM was ready to help his people in any circumstances.

PM promised… concerned offices were called... orders were typed... aeroplane was set ready...

The equipment was loaded.

Aeroplane came on to the runway.

It took off for Bhubaneshwar.

Before 3 hours for sunrise in Konark, Aeroplane landed in Bhubaneshwar.

Many government vehicles were on road to distribute the load for various places.

A promise was kept.

Naveen Patnaik's phone call to Delhi again in the morning 5:30 am..

Thank you, Prime minister!

A warrior's request…

Another warrior's promise

Were completed…

21 Chapter

Down fall of Stock markets

Corona virus had been deteriorating the financial statuses of the world countries as well. Many companies which ruled the world went severe down fall. Crores of employees lost their jobs. Oil and Petroleum prices decreased to negative digits (2019 August). The stock markets situation became miserable.

There's a saying- "Only strong people who can swim against the dangerous ocean currents will win over the stock market". No such courage was seen then. Many share markets experienced huge loss during the lockdown. Bombay Stock Exchange lost 3,934.72 points while NIFTY lost 1,135.20. Production was stopped. Investors had to lose properties which would worth million crores. Trading went into lower circuits. This same situation had occurred earlier when the Harshad Mehta's scam revealed on 28 April 1992. And also, on 17 May 2004 due to uncertain elections, on 17 October 2007 due to P-Notes, on 22 January 2008 due to subprime crisis. Very few shares on finger count, were able to gain resistance over present situations. Banking shares also had the same situations to encounter. Many private and government bank shares were running in severe loss. Reliance industries, Infosys, Tata consultancies shares were sold on a high range. While banking shares went 50 percent down fall. Investors were not ready to buy them for at least half price.

Is there any solution..?

Indian rupee reached the lowest level in its history when compared to Dollar. Oil and Petroleum recorded negative value because of lockdown. Uncertain Weather evolved in Indian economy. Foreign investors came down for sale of their shares. All these impacts will affect the stock market collectively. "In the future, it will become difficult to estimate the ups and downs in the share market", Vivek Mittal commented.

Chapter 22

A 'Detective story' by Scientists

An article attracted me in the website "The Guardian" newspaper.

Scientists imagined a 'Detective story' to know about the way how deadly corona virus spread from wild animals to humans.

China

A forest, 100 km far from the city of Wuhan…

A bat was flying in the sky. After a while, it excreted through its anus. Its excretory discharges fell in the forest.

A pangolin came out of its burrow in the search of ants.

It went on sniffing the mud and touched the excreta of that bat.

That's it! The corona virus which was hidden in the bat's body, now entered into this pangolin through the excreta.

This was the first phase of transmission

A hunter named Hung Chuy lives his life by selling the wild animals in the market. In the month of December, luckily, he could able to hunt many animals which included a pangolin. Out of joy, he went for the Wuhan market and sold it.

The pangolin was the same one which was infected by Corona virus earlier. This was the second phase of transmission.

Birthday celebrations in Xio Vi's house on that day.

Her grandson asked "Yeve" with a cute face. This word is heard in almost all the homes in China. Its meaning- 'tastes of forest'. He was asking a dish prepared from wild animal's meat. Xio smiled at her grandson.

She went to Wuhan market and selected a pangolin. Everyone in her family likes pangolin meat a lot. She too thought that they will love it.

But she didn't know, she was carrying a deadly virus which will threaten the human survival.

Like this, from a bat's excretory discharges to pangolin, pangolin to human, the corona virus might had been spread its infection. This was the third phase of transmission.

Presently, this is a fictional story for the scientists.

23 Chapter

Corona virus in wild animals

Scientists were trying to prove their formulation by identifying the animals which have this virus. This is like a detective story, said Prof Andrew Cunningham of Zoological society, London. This virus might be found in various wild animals. Especially the bats, he said.

Scientists realized the relation of corona virus with bats after identifying a new virus code. Bats are mammals which live in large flocks. They travel for long distances and exist on every continent of earth. Though, bats are rarely infected, they transmit various disease factors.

According to Prof Kate Jones of University College London, bats travel very fast at higher altitudes. By birth, bats have the capacity to heal the damage occurred to DNA and are able to recollect the energy to travel long distances. That's why bats can survive by gaining resistance to many viruses.

Since these are mammals, there is chance for transmitting viruses to humans.

Actually, bats play a major in the ecological balance of the environment. They consume mosquitoes and other insects which damage agricultural fields. They also help trees for fertilization by acting as pollinating agents. "Though, the way how virus spread was not known yet, these studies will help us in future to fight with the similar viruses", said Prof Dayana Bell of East Anglia University.

The second part in this mysterious knot was finding the species of animal which was brought to Wuhan market.

Scientists doubted pangolins in this issue.

Pangolins are one of the most highly trafficked animals in the world. They depend on ants for food. In fact, pangolins are considered as the endangered animal species of the world. They have great demand in the Asian markets because of their usage in the preparation of Chinese traditional medicines.

It is said that corona virus found in these pangolins, resembles the corona virus found in humans. And there are suspicions that virus transmission had took place from bats to pangolins before humans. However, studies are underway on this issue.

Prof Cunningham cautioned, "Pangolins, bats and other wild animals are sold in markets. There are greater probabilities for the virus spread among the animals in the market. And such markets are very harmful for humans".

Unencountered viruses in the long human race

Man assumes himself as the most intelligent and strongest organism on the earth and hunts unrequired animals for his food. But now, he locked himself in the house out of the fear caused by a little microscopic organism.

No creature on earth is as great as the Nature. Man might have understood this truth after all the damage he went through.

Most of the viruses which infected people these days, were spread from wild animals only. Prof Kate Jones told, that Ebola, HIV, SARS etc viruses had transmitted to humans from wild animals.

She opined, "Humans are getting infected from unknown viruses because of more intruders in the forest areas. However, preventive measures can also be taken if the disease factors are known".

24 Chapter

When will I go to home?

For humans, running is hard while standing is easy

But for mind, running is easy while standing is hard.

And that too, in the leisure time, our mind runs in different ways. My mind is also running in many ways. It is taking out various topics and displaying them in front of my eyes.

My thoughts again turned their way to our home.

Though, many facilities are available here, my mind always tends towards our home. In fact, home is a heaven.

A seven-storeyed building or a thatched roof home with two rooms.

Or even a hut... whatever! Home is the same.

You do travel to countries and continents, Himalayas and evergreen forests, you will not feel the magic of village and its atmosphere.

An unknown joy rushes in while entering the village.

The Banyan tree at the street's end asks my well-being.

An unexperienced emotion surrounds while reaching our home.

The jasmine creeper over the door architrave welcomes us pleasingly.

The stagnated air in the home smells as sandal wood smell after opening the doors.

Our home had not undergone any change. Yes! It won't change.

All the nostalgic musings of past bloomed in my mind.

No matter how high we fly? How long we travel? Our mind takes us back to the very same old place- our home.

Dog barking sounds in the evening.. damaged roads.. improper electricity.. irritating mosquitoes.. annoyed grandmothers.. burning sun in the sky.. flowing sweat.. extremely hot temperature.. late trains.. stagnated drainages.. This country.. This state will not change, I blame all the time. But still, a worry prevails in heart while leaving this village.

This air, this land, this soil, this odour, this relaxation, this affection, these friendships, these relationships, these greetings, these hills, these people and this village.. is 'my village'. More over my home.

There might be ups and downs, success and failure, happiness and tragedy. Home is something beyond all these aspects of life and it is in fact, a reflection of complete life. That's why, we feel relaxed after reaching home.

Anyone can build a house. But the real challenge lies in the process of

transforming it into a divine paradise. A home is not just a building consisting of four walls, but it is the best connection of four hearts.

Every heart strives hard for a shelter. It might be a cool shadow of a tree or a protective cave or a tent.

Home is not a complete centre of peace. It has all the aspects similar to the world outside. Home is comprised of all crisis and happiness experienced by the whole mankind. But still… it is some kind of contentment, which drags us in.

It is not that we can find happiness only in apartments. We can also lead a happy life in a hut also. And it is not just a protection from sun and rain, but it's also an address, safety for life, relaxation for mind.

Sadness engulfs on me when I was invited (in the past) to any house warming ceremony. I used to think when I would build one such house. That's why all these attempts and hard penance are significant for me. After all these years, that moment when our dream came true, happiness prevailed.

An ideal house should attract us from wherever we are in the world. It should be a heaven on earth. House is a protection. House is a faith. Though there are myriad marvellous places on earth, though our mind experiences extreme happiness, at last it should return back searching for its own shelter-the house.

We can live at our own wish in our house. No one can dictate us. Other places are not safer. And are not faithful. That's why, for anyone, own house is a dream project.

25 Chapter

Is this that new pandemic which destructs the world

Corona had spread across the world. Scientists were confused about the way how virus was spreading. It might destruct a generation. This is the pandemic, which the world was facing now.

Actually, what is a pandemic? An epidemic which spreads over a wide geographic area i.e. countries or continents and affects a significant proportion of the population is called as a pandemic.

Every pandemic is unique from one another. And estimating its range becomes much more difficult. Swine flu is an example for pandemic which had evolved in recent times. But this generation was able to understand the meaning of Pandemic by this corona virus only.

It is true that corona virus is not so deadly as SARS virus of past time. But due to its massive spread across the world, WHO recognised this as the Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

Dr. Almeida discovered corona virus for the first time!

Actually, how do we know about corona species? Who discovered it first? For all these questions, we must know about Dr. June Almeida who discovered Corona virus for the first time around 1964, in the laboratory of St. Thomas hospital, London.

Almeida's life story will be more interesting. She was born to a bus driver in 1930, Glasgow. She was not interested in education. Thus, she had kept a full stop to her school education when she was 16 years old and joined as a Histopathology lab technician in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary in the same year (1947). She had married Enriques Rosalio, Venezuelan artist in the year 1954. After the birth of her daughter, they had shifted to Toronto, Canada. She had worked with electron microscope in Ontario Cancer Institute for 10 years.

She pioneered a technique in Immune Electron Microscopy (IEM) to better visualise viruses by using antibodies to aggregate them. She was awarded doctorate for her contribution in 1964. Britain recognised Almeida's intelligence and invited her to the home country again. Later, she worked at the medical school of St Thomas hospital, London.

She had studied about the viruses which lead to normal cold along with Dr. David Terrell. She collected the samples of volunteers. Terrell was unable to identify a virus found in B814 sample of a student. Almeida examined this

virus and found similar characteristics to that of Influenza virus. This so-called virus, is now known to us as the 'Corona virus'. This was the first corona virus that had infected to humans. Its details were published in the British Medical Journal, 1965. Thus, the virus of corona species gradually changed its genetic sequence and therefore declared warfare on the world.

Chinese laboratory in the whirlpool of conflicts

In this deadly period of corona virus spread, all the fingers were pointing on P4 Laboratory in Wuhan. There were arguments which say this laboratory as the birth place of corona virus. Did corona virus had started spreading from Wuhan laboratory as suspected by the world countries? Is this a Bio weapon? What is the role of bats in virus infection? What is the reality in allegations which direct Wuhan market as reason for the virus spread? Did China conspire about the virus spread? If yes, what are the comments of experts? These are all interesting topics to know.

Why conspiracies?

It is suspected that the corona virus zero patient is a woman who sells prawns. But they were unable to explain how she was infected with virus though she was still alive. Fax news, NTD media organisations researched on Wuhan market and found that bats aren't sold there. Generally, WHO finds zero patient in the time of any pandemic. This is most important in the pandemic analysis. But this was not happened yet. A research paper was published in the popular medical journal, 'The Lancet'. According to the research paper, the first virus case was recorded in Wuhan on 1st December 2019 and the Wuhan seafood market had no link with it. Which means the virus was infected in November and the patient consulted in hospital after the incubation period. Meanwhile, the virus might had spread to many people. Later China did not allow its scientists to share genetic information to the world outside.

P4 laboratory researches on the most dangerous viruses

China constructed P4 laboratory for executing researches on the most dangerous viruses after it had experienced SARS outbreak. It was built in the Wuhan city outskirts covering the area of 3,000 square feet. In 2018, it was brought in to use. About 1500 kinds of viruses were stored here and used for research. There were allegations that China had brought most dangerous viruses from foreign countries in the year, 2019. Chinese doctor Jiangyu Kyuni was sent back to China since he was alleged that he had stolen virus and virus information from National Microbiology Laboratory (NML), Canada. During his work period in NML, he once visited Wuhan laboratory in between 2017-18. Only after that, researches on Ebola and Nipha were initiated. America also provided financial help during reign of Obama. Some of

the American scientists had visited this in the past. Jiang Lee, who is known as the 'Bat Woman', conducted researches here.

Did China trampled the facts?

China had not allowed International researchers to enter into P4 laboratory after the virus outbreak. Chinese officials harassed Ven Liang since he had shared information in the social media. Even China did not share any information to the world for many long days. It advertised that American soldiers had spread the infection. Later, Chinese newspapers wrote articles saying that virus spread was started from Italy.

Strict rules

College of Information Science and Engineering affiliated to Fudan University, Shanghai, had published a notice on 10 April which was issued by Chinese Academy of Science. It had declared that the researches conducted on Corona virus birth must be published only after analysis and approval. Later, it was removed due to the severe criticisms.

Chinese Institute of Geo-sciences in Wuhan also issued same kind of notice which was removed later. Chinese Academy of Sciences is directly accountable only to the president. P4 laboratory in Wuhan also comes under this organization only.

Are experimented animals kept for sale?

There were allegations that the experimented animals were being sold in the slaughterhouses by the employees of Chinese laboratories. Lee Ning was accused in this act and the court declared 12 years of imprisonment on 2 January. There were also suspicions on p4 laboratory. 'The Epoch Times' published an article which envisages that the Director General of P4 laboratory mailed to their employees in January first week, not to leak any information in relation with the laboratory. Many Campaigns were raised which pointed out laboratories as birth places of corona virus. According to 'Chinese Experimental Animal Information', about 3,00,000 animals were used for experiments only in Hubei Province.

Errors in Laboratories

'Washington Post' published a news about the errors in P4 laboratory based on the report given by the American experts who visited P4 laboratory in the month of January. An English newspaper named 'The Sun' put forward the images posted by 'China Daily' in its Twitter account on 29 May 2018. Virus storing refrigerators were seen Unsealed. America Chief of Joint Staff, Mark Milley also suspected on P4 laboratory and told that they were researching in this aspect. Former American President Donald Trump supporting

Media "Fax News" also published an article which strengthened this argument. Dr. Peter Froster of Cambridge lead a committee to investigate the facts about the corona virus birth place. They estimated that the virus must had spread in between 13th September and 7th December.

What are the views of experts?

France government which helped in the construction of P4 lab declared that there are no evidences to prove the virus spread initiation from Wuhan laboratory. Anthony Fauci, one of the best doctors of America also disagreed the allegations raised on P4 laboratory. In fact, America funded 3.7 dollars for the experiments in the laboratory. Dr. Filippa Lentzos, Biosecurity researcher at Kings College London, also declared the same. It is notable that she had also expressed the uncertainty in finding the origin of the virus.

The 'Bat Woman'

Shi Zhengli, the most heard name in this dispute. She had been conducting research on the Corona viruses in bats. Chinese address her as the 'Bat Woman'. She had conducted notable analysis on the spike proteins of corona virus in 2010. At the same time, she had also discovered the ability of corona virus in infecting the ACE-2 receptors present human body cells.

In 2013, she wrote an analytical essay certifying this discovery. She was criticised for conducting experiments on artificial viruses. 'Scientific American' mentioned Zhengli's words, "Guangdong, Yunnan provinces climate is suitable for virus growth. I don't think it can spread in the Wuhan located in mid China. I wonder it might had not leaked from our own laboratory". Though she had changed her words later, criticisms evoked already. This made her to declare condemnation of her words.

26 Chapter

Virus War!

Is artificial synthesis of virus not possible?

Many allegations and condemnations evolved on the SARS-COV-2 virus which was the reason for COVID-19. Luc Montagnier, recipient of Noble prize (2008), also commented which strengthened the leakage suspicions. But all these allegations on Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV) were being condemned by its Director General. He said it's impossible to synthesize virus artificially.

Veteran Virologist Luc Montagnier quoted, "It is suspicious that the genetic sequences of SARS-COV-2 virus resembled with genetic sequences of the parasites of HIV, Malaria etc. These are not natural. Something big hazard had occurred in Wuhan laboratory". (Indirectly, he mentioned that the virus was leaked while inventing the vaccine to AIDS).

American President Trump had commented that China will be taken into severe action if they are intentionally leaked the virus. There is a lot of difference between accidental leakage and intentional leakage. If it is accidental, they you must have permitted us. You didn't. China knows something wrong was going on. They might have troubled. More number of Chinese people might have died when compared to America.

Australia also supported Trump's views on China. It said WHO was partial to China. WHO must be enquired on its functioning in facing the Pandemic. Because WHO's approach was not at the mark and it had hidden the problem instead.

Humans are incapable of synthesizing Artificial Virus

WIV's Director General declared that they were fully aware of the manner of researches and maintaining the virus samples with care in their organization. There were no chances for leakage. He said, "We have strict control systems and a set of rules for the conduct of researches. People are raising allegations bases on imaginations. He suspected the critiques that they intend to interfere in our researches. We have demonstrated and made the virus genetic sequence available for all. All the details of treatments etc were submitted to the WHO. "As a scientist, I can say one thing. Virus leakage from our side is impossible. Synthesis of virus requires extraordinary intellect and huge hard work. So, I do not believe in this issue, he explained.

However, Truth and Untruth will be known on consistency.

Chapter 27

When will the situations become normal again?

World is getting hindered. The streets which used to be full of crowd are now seen empty and calm. Cemetery silence is prevailing from the metropolitan cities to the rural places. Life is restricted to houses. No schools, colleges, journeys. Theatres and malls were being closed. Outdoor works were cancelled. Work from home was implemented. Gatherings with relatives, festivals and marriages were postponed. The world is showing unusual response. How long will it be continued? When is its end? When will our lives come to normal?

Britain Prime minister Boris Johnson also infected with this virus. Luckily, after 10 days of battle with death, he won at last.

The world understood that the corona virus will not vanish in this present circumstances.

Though the number of virus infections might decrease in future, it takes long time to get cured completely. It might be months or years also. All the nations understood that it is difficult to shut down the crowdy areas. This resulting huge loss in terms of social and financial.

Prof Mark Edward Woolhouse of Edinburgh university opined that none of the world countries possess 'Exit Strategy' for getting out of this crisis. This is the biggest socio-scientific challenge for all the nations.

Why were the pharmaceutical companies reluctant to prepare vaccine?

After being heard all this COVID news, I wonder- Aren't we able develop a solution for this terrific crisis?

I asked my Facebook friend Mr. Venkatesh, who is a virologist and a senior scientist at the world-famous Merck Pharmaceutical company.

Generally, people think pharmaceutical companies earn billions by inventing vaccine. But in reality, it isn't true. I gained awareness about vaccines and their synthesis after speaking to him.

I understood that duration of virus synthesis i.e. 12-18 months is reasonable. An American Biotechnology investor said that it is impossible to prepare a vaccine for the disease transformed as a pandemic. Lot of money and time are needed. There will not be any notable profits, not even in billions. WHO estimated 12-18 months for the preparation of vaccine. Pharmaceutical companies however produced vaccine to disease which occurred earlier. But in the meanwhile, the disease intensity gets faded. He said, organizations and

investors are not interested because of their long-term benefits in my mind.

SARS virus vanished before the entry of Vaccine..

Vaccine synthesis involves several phases. Before making it available for the common people, it has to undergo extensive examinations. SARS virus had spread in the years 2002 and 2003. But it had vanished before the preparation of vaccine. Till now, there is no vaccine for SARS. The first vaccine to Ebola virus was produced by Merck & Co. pharmaceutical company. In 2015, this was given in Guinea, a country in Western Africa. Then it was not licensed. But the government approved it due to emergency. America gave permission to it last year (2019).

Another Ebola vaccine produced by a multinational corporation called 'Johnson and Johnson' and Democratic Republic of Congo availed this vaccine in 2019.

Researches on vaccine preparations are performing with extraordinary speed. America neglected the provision of experimenting the vaccine first with animals. It directly utilized the vaccine to humans. There was no certainty of success. It was not clear whether there is a need of vaccine at international level or not. If everything goes perfectly, then the vaccine can come out in a year. But in the present situations, waiting is impossible. But it's important.

Ronald Klain stated, "They had spent lot of money for the synthesis of Ebola virus". He had worked as America Ebola Response Coordinator in 2014-15. There were also chances of side effects. During the spread of Swine flu in 2009-10, GlaxoSmithKline developed Pandemrix vaccine which was given to 60 lakh people. But they withdrew their sales later. Because people were affected with Narcolepsy (i.e. Oversleep) after taking the vaccine.

Many scientists expressed their intolerance on pharmaceutical companies for not taking part in the vaccine synthesis.

But unexpectedly, Russia produced vaccine. President Putin named it as Sputnik and given to his daughter first. However, the world is not believing this. Instead, it's suspecting that experiments were not conducted in a right manner.

Amazing Business with vaccines

Pharma Industry is the biggest manufactory in the world. We will be surprised to know the business of medicines. Among all the medicine, Vaccines' share is the largest one.

In accordance with Statista, a Data Analysis organization, Rs. 3.86 lakh crores of vaccine doses were sold in the market during 2019-20. Due to the rise of Influenza, Swine flu, Hepatitis etc diseases, the market value of vaccines was also increased.

"Everyone thinks organizations or companies will compete with each other in inventing the vaccine. But the top-4 organizations showing their disinterest.", said Dr. Helen T Huynuh of Amsterdam University Medical centre.

There might not be a need for the vaccine: Oxford Scientist

While other scientists in the world were making their efforts to invent the vaccine, surprisingly, Sunetra Gupta of Oxford University, had stated no need of vaccine. After a period of time, it will also become a part in human life like that of cold, fever. Healthy people need not to worry about the virus. Only the aged people, heart patients etc must follow the precautions. He said only this kind of people might need vaccine. Rest of them might not need it. His estimation was the virus intensity might be reduced gradually in the future and it might become just like cold etc disease.

28 Chapter

OVER Social Distance

A news about an incident had melted my heart.

An old couple who resides in their own flat of an apartment had returned from America.

Till then, Aeroplane services were not banned. The couple had travelled thousands of kilometres but unable to enter their own flat

Reason- neighbours objected them not to enter the apartment. Fear of death kills human's sense of discrimination before killing him or her.

This is not the only one incident. Many unusual incidents had taken place. Especially, the tenants of rented houses. Maids were also dismissed from daily work. Owners ordering tenants to vacate soon after knowing the tenant went for virus test.

I remembered our struggle in rented houses

We had spent twenty-five long years in rented houses. Adversities are often guests in those days. About 27.5 percent of Indian population who live in metropolitan cities. And all of them experience the same problems.

Searching a house, the very first problem which is to encountered. And that too in Hyderabad is almost impossible. Like the oasis in a desert, a To-let board appears to our eyes. In villages, it is easy to find a house since most of the villagers knew many people. And they speak straight-forwardly. Unlike others, they won't hesitate in saying No.

City's scenario is quite different. we have to follow rent brokers. They demand money. Yet the rent amount will be high, conditions apply. Some people will not allow bachelors while some allow only bachelors. Some like businessmen. Some like tenants of their same caste. Non-vegetarian food is prohibited in few houses. Different people with different tastes and faiths.

Paying thousands of rent amount, being abided by the rules and regulations of owner, water facility once in two days, inferior life, only tenants are aware of all these miseries. But however, all the problems had vanished once we built our own house.

Mosque or Church? Where do you worship?

These are all just tangible troubles. There are intangible troubles too, in the form of caste, creed, colour, region, religion, state so on. The interview

starts with these questions- "do you drink?", "are you a non-vegetarian?". They indirectly pose questions to know our caste and religion. They observe us from top to bottom. If we are found wearing Burqa or without vermilion on our forehead, another level of questions will be shot at us. Where do you go? A Mosque or a Church? What is your name and surname? What's your age? Are you a bachelor and do you have friends? What kind of job is yours? After all these enquiries, they simply reject us with what so ever reasons which strike their mind.

Trust me! It was a struggle of an extreme level. The most miserable circumstance is death of our family member. If the person dies in hospital, he/she will be directly taken to the graveyard. Many people may not be able to see the dead. Most of the times, and the funeral ceremony may not be carried according to the tradition. All these are evidences of the inhumane angle of cities.

Who's the first corona infected person?

Srinivas called me. He asked about my wellness. Later, we started discussing the corona news. Who's the first corona infected person? What does Zero patient mean? I shared my doubts with him. He provided most of the information.

Chinese officers, expert doctors were confused to find out the first corona infected person. Many questions were being raised on this aspect. First virus/disease infected person is considered as the 'Patient Zero'. Recognising the patient zero is must since most of the answers to the questions related to virus birth, virus spread etc can be known from him/her. So that it will be useful to encounter its spread and take essential actions if it's leaked in future.

No clarity on Zero patient

Huan Yan Ling is considered as the zero patient since she had worked as a researcher in Wuhan virology lab. But she was vanished suspiciously. Her details were also deleted from the Website of the laboratory. However, laboratory declared that she was alive.

Chinese officers identified the first case on 31st December. John Hopkins university through its collected statistics depicted that about 82 percent of 75,000 cases evolved in the entire world including China, were recorded in the Wuhan regions.

But the Lancet Medical Journal published an article which says the first case was recorded on 1st December and it had no relation with the market.

Dr. Vu Venuan who is a senior doctor in Wuhan Jinyintan hospital told that the first corona virus patient was infected with Alzheimer disease already. He was also a member of the team which researched on corona virus. He said

that the patient had to travel through 5 halts to reach the hospital. Since he was a victim of a disease, he was unable to come outdoor.

Another three cases were recorded later. 2 of those do not belong to Hubei province. Researchers identified that about 27 out of 41 patients had a link with the market. WHO believed that the virus might had spread from an alive animal in the market.

Can a single person sow a seed for this massive disaster?

Ebola virus is one among the viruses which had affected western Africa during 2014-16. Around 11,000 deaths were recorded. About 28,000 people were infected. Virus spread lasted for two years in 10 countries of the world. Its effect was notably hectic in the countries like Spain, United Kingdom and Italy. Ebola virus was first infected to 2 years old boy Guinea. Researches assumed that the virus might had spread to the boy since he played under dry trees which are habitations for eagles. EMBO Molecular Medicine had published an article after collecting samples from the boy's village, which says the researchers had come to an assumption that virus had spread from eagles.

Typhoid Mary in 1906

Mary Mallon, the infector of Typhoid fever in New York 1906, named as Typhoid Mary since she was identified as the 'Patient Zero'. Mary had migrated from Ireland to America. She used to work as a cook in rich men's houses. Every family which Mary had served was infected with Typhoid fever. Although, Mary was infected with fever, no symptoms were seen in her. So therefore, doctors identified her as a Healthy disease infector.

Generally, few people have the capability of spreading virus rapidly. There are called as 'Super spider'. Thus, Mary was known as the first super spider. However, thousands of people were infected already. 10 percent were seriously affected.

Zero patient - a disliked character for researchers

The word 'Zero patient' was founded during the spread of HIV infection. In 1980s, researchers of Centre for Disease Control and Prevention Control had conducted researches in San Francisco and Los Angeles. They used letter 'O' so as to indicate recognize the record of cases. Since the rest of the scientists assumed it as Zero, the word 'Zero patient' had come into existence in the Medical Terminology.

However, there is a chance for false information about the zero patient or people might see him/her as a culprit. Same incident took place while recognising the first AIDS infected person. Gaetan Dugas, a flight attendant of Canada was a homosexual being. He was picturized atrociously as the

infector who brought HIV into US around 1980s. Three decades later, in 2016, scientists identified that the virus had spread from Caribbean Islands in 1970s. Now, who will change the history?

406 people got infected in a single day

According to a new study, each COVID patient can infect 406 people in a single month, Lav Agarwal, joint secretary of Central Health Dept revealed. He said that if patients were controlled with serious social distancing, then the probability of virus spread will be less.

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It had been 25 years

Doctors had tested me once again.

Still, I felt tired..

I didn't speak much. Doctors went as soon as they completed their work. I could see a piece of paper on the table near me. Perhaps, Radhakrishna might had brought as a cover for grapes. A painting on that paper attracted me.

After seeing it, I remembered my art which had been hidden for 2 decades.

I guess, it had been 25 years that I'd painted something with my brush.

The art of painting had given me a shape and colour. This very art had paved the path into Eenadu. I would say it is a boon gifted by god. It kept me in a position. It gave me name and fame and employment. It had also exposed my existence.

I used to get numerous thoughts and imaginations when I sleep on the cot outside our house. Those white clouds moving in the blue sky. I could able to figure out the numerous shapes in those clouds. I wonder those had influenced me to practice art. And also, the fumes of incense sticks placed in front of god's photographs, used to mesmerize me a lot. I wished to paint all those imaginations on the canvas.

Ravi Varma's pictures and Bapu's line art always created a curiosity in me.

In fact, I had no training at all. I was inspired from few Telugu books and cover pages of few magazines and also from other cartoonists.

I'd got first prize in my 7th standard for drawing a sun rising in between two hills. In those days, I used draw anything which attracted me. Film actors and actresses, cartoons etc. I used to save money and buy a small painting brush and paint something when I got time. I was clearly mad at art.

During my high school, our Ram Singh master had an attractive calligraphy and used to write our names beautifully with some black ink. I came know that ink is called as Indian Ink. Thus, I went as a labourer in cotton fields to buy that ink. I saved that money. In fact, I had not got sleep in those days. There used to be only one thing in mind- "I should buy that ink at any cost".

One day, my father with anger threw that ink pot outside the house. He was angry at me that I was neglecting studies in the madness of art. That ink fell on the wall outside. There were spots on both the wall and my heart.

Thus, Art was banned for some time with this incident.

After many days, when I joined in Polytechnic College, my interest had got a companion. His name is Naga Mohan. His hobby was to write poems. Slowly, we became good friends. He used to appreciate each and every art of mine. In fact, he used to find new meanings out of them. And I also used to draw pictures for his poems. Ultimately, we prepared an anthology you see!

After completion of polytechnic education, I had left for Hyderabad in the quest of employment. I packed my drawing items and my arts along with cloths and all. I was a free bird then. That too with new wings…

The year of 1988.. I was 20 years old then.
Got job in Vijai Electricals..

Though, my job was with electricity, I never left my brush aside. I used to draw something in leisure times. There supervisors and other workers were also used appreciate my talent. Then, it was a sign of greatness for me. Drawing cartoons occasionally and showing them to different newspapers. And waiting for their publication in newspapers. All these memories make me happy all the time.

Once, I went to **Eenadu..** the leading Telugu daily newpaper office. I remember my state of excitement that day when I handed over my cartoons to sub editors in Chatura and Vipula sections by compromising the security guard to allow me inside. I think it's god's will that I had to work in that same floor after becoming a sub editor and having those past sub editors as my senior colleagues now.

I had got first prize in an essay competition conducted on the occasion of quality weeks. In addition to this, my cartoons were published in couple of newspapers. So, status had increased in the company. I felt proud when our personal officer spoke to me specially. One of my friends over there used to write poems with the Nom de plume "Veena". And I used to draw pictures for them.

Cartoons Exhibition

In the year 1990, there was a cartoons exhibition held in Telugu University. I came to know about it through an advertisement in a newspaper. Luckily, I'd also got the permission to exhibit my cartoons also. I was fortunate to meet many other artists and cartoonists in that programme. Taking a certificate from the hands of the popular poet C. Narayana Reddy was another level of excitement and fortune.

Once there was a cartoons competition organized by some cultural society. I'd sent my cartoons also. Two to three months had passed but the results were not revealed yet. So, I went to Tyagaraya Gaana Sabha with two of my friends. I've stayed that night in their home since it was too late for me to reach Patancheru. They had invited me cordially. The affection of that couple is indescribable. Thus, I got acquainted with writer Akkiraju Janardhana Rao who was the son of great writer Akkiraju Ramapathi Rao.

Sir! Can I get a job in Eenadu newspaper?

I came to know after some intimacy that he was an employee of the State Health Museum in the Public Gardens. And he was a regional news reporter in Eenadu. He covers every cultural news in that area and also the Tyagaraya Gaana Sabha. Immediately, I showed my arts and cartoons to him and enquired if I could get a job in Eenadu. He said, he was just a news reporter. I was disappointed because he too was helpless. (After next ten years, I was the Incharge of Eenadu's Hyderabad City Edition. It was a strange experience for me to assign him the work of news coverage. Though, he was an elderly person, he appreciated me saying, "You have achieved what you said. You are great man". It was actually his greatness). After few days, he informed me that the results of cartoons competition were out and I got a consolation prize. It made me happy. He also suggested me to participate in the book and art exhibition which would be held soon in Tyagaraya Gaana Sabha.

I'd seen a hand-written newspaper in that exhibition. I thought I can also create once such newspaper. Till then, many of my cartoons were published in various newspapers. And I'd also got prizes in essay competitions.

So, I decided to run a hand-written newspaper. For that, I started exploring and gathering all the requirements including books, spiral binding note books, drawing material, etc. I'd also got the membership from State Central Library in Afzal Gunj.

"Spandana"

I started working day and night to frame the newspaper. I included stories, poems, essays, cartoons, jokes and cover stories in it.

I named it as "Spandana".

I was not sure about the aim of the newspaper but some mysterious force powered me to introduce it in Vijay Electricals. I used to work all day there. And in the evening, I used to sit alone in the room and create the newspaper. I'd completed few editions. I used to keep them in a small library in the staff quarters. In a very few days, it became popular.

One day, our personal officer called me and asked me the newspaper editions for reading. After a couple of days, he called me again and appreciated hugely. He offered me that the company would sponsor requirements for the newspaper from then. He had also provided the permission to use man-

agers bus facility for going to Hyderabad to buy the necessities. He was very kind that he had also accepted my request for the allotment of a special room for me backside of the canteen.

Though, all these were very small accomplishments for me, but they made me very strong and happy. I'd never looked back after our general manager had also appreciated me.

Newspaper was running successfully. All were supporting me. I'd got a respectful status in Vijay Electricals. Once our general manager had assigned me some art work for a business deal with Cyprus Nation's representatives. That was a great opportunity for me. Sir even showed my handwritten newspaper, Spandana for them. It made me feel proud.

In this crucial time, I'd got an urgent work to visit port city Visakhapatnam.

Then I didn't know that this journey will lead me to an important turn in my life.

1990, I stepped in Visakhapatnam

Our second elder sister was ill then. So, I went to look her. There used to be the house of Eenadu senior sub-editor Mr. Sarveswar Rao in the backside of our sister's house. In fact, she already showed all my arts and cartoons to him so that he would offer me any job in Eenadu.

He said, he was not authorized to provide a job for me. But he suggested me to consult Eenadu MD Mr. Appa Rao and show my books and works. He said, it might benefit me. So, I tried to meet Mr. Appa Rao because then I had huge love for Eenadu. After two three trials, I had got the opportunity to meet him. He had seen all my art works and books and told me to meet after a week since he was busy in a meeting with the Chairman.

It had already been several days since I came from Vijay Electricals. I didn't even provide an intimation to the management. I was not sure that whether my job would be secure then. Even here also, I was not sure that I would get a job. But there is only one thing in mind. I must get a job in Eenadu. It might be because of my endless love towards Eenadu.

Finally, I decided to stay one more week in Visakhapatnam. Exactly, after a week later, I went to meet him again. He was shocked at my unbeaten confidence. So, he called his driver and ordered him to take me to Manager Mr. Ram Babu in Eenadu office. Thus, I'd entered the Eenadu office for the first time in my life.

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The day which turned my life

Mr. Ram Babu took me to the desk and introduced me to the desk members. I felt proud and was feared to sit with those well-experienced and well-skilled people. That was the year of 1991 when parliament elections were held. Rajiv Gandhi and NTR were campaigning extensively. Mr. Venkatesham who looks after Visakhapatnam edition used to call me and assign news and ask me to draw cartoons and pictures accordingly.

It became difficult for me to draw pictures for a given subject. Before, I used draw at my wish and whatever I liked and attracted to. But drawing for a given subject was completely new to me. I used to practice drawing the caricatures of reputed personalities of that time.

Brutal assassination of Rajiv Gandhi

Elections were postponed due to the sudden assassination of Congres party head and the former Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi. Thus, I had got time to practice and level up my drawing skills. On a whole, the elections were completed. With that, there was no more work left for me in the office. Then, they didn't even announce my salary. I was not appointed in fact. I only used to draw pictures according to the needs of the newspaper.

By the way, I'd also learnt PIB Board operating in the reception during the elections. One day, I sat simply in the desk. I was just reading a newspaper. Mr. Ram Babu came to me and asked if I was free. He introduced me to the city desk Incharge Mr. Yogeshwar Rao and told him to teach me how to write press notes.

From then, I used to do that work only. One day, I was reading few pending stories. Yogeshwar Rao suggested me to rewrite those stories. Immediately, I took the rough pad and edited beautifully. He was impressed at my creative entitling to that story. So, that's how my reign in journalism at the Eenadu desk was initiated.

Work was good but not the salary. I was disappointed. I thought that I would get a good salary if I can work for few days here. They declared Rs. 500 as a salary for me.

In Vijai Electricals, I was paid three times the salary here. It became late. I might had lost my job now. I was completely confused. But finally, I decided to join Journalism School so that I can settle permanently. However,

I used to stay in our sister's house.

The D-day had arrived. The notification for ***Eenadu Journalism School*** was declared. But shockingly, only graduates were eligible to write the exam. I only did my polytechnic course. I enquired everyone for alternative ways. All of them said No way. I was disappointed again.

I gave up hope on the School of Journalism and engaged myself in doing the job. But fortunately, Managing director Mr. Appa Rao came to me and asked if I was attempting the exam. "No sir", I told. "Why?", he asked. I told my problem to him. "It's Ok! Are you willing to write the exam? Can you write it?", he asked.

"Yes sir! definitely", I replied. "Ok then, you start your preparations. I'll clear your problem", he said. I did not know whether to believe him or not. But there was only a week left for the exam.

I didn't even apply for the exam. But thought our MD would look after everything. At last, I struggled a lot and prepared for the exam.

I wrote the exam. Results had come. I and another person were the only two members selected from Visakhapatnam unit. I was fully excited. Life seemed to be hopeful again. I informed my family and left for Hyderabad.

I had never spoken with Chairman Ramoji Rao sir before. I only watched him in couple of meetings. So, I became tense once after knowing that I'll be interviewed by him. In fact, I never went for an interview since then.

But our seniors encouraged me not to fear and told I'll be having first priority since I had worked in the organization.

Eenadu is adorable for me

I adore Eenadu and its office building which stands stiff in Somajiguda. I used to look at it hopefully when I go in that way through city bus. Though, I'd entered a couple times, I only used to go there to submit my cartoons. The chairman's chamber was located in fifth floor.

I stepped in with huge fear. They insisted me to write an application form since I did not apply for the exam then.

I did not know what to write in present working column. I greedily thought that I would get first priority if I state that I was already working in the desk. So, I wrote- "working as a sub-editor, Visakha desk. Those two phases pushed me into three years of darkness.

The Interview had started…

Chairman Ramoji Rao, former News Today editor Ramesh Babu, principal of School of Journalism, linguist (my master also) Budaraju Radhakrishna, Sunday Magazine Incharge Varma were the members in the Interview Panel for that day. Chairman picks the right person. His first question was, "How did you decide to become a journalist without a degree?". I

answered something. Immediately, he posed me another question- "Already you are working as a sub-editor in the City Desk? Why did you come to the interview again?". Those two questions made me speechless. Afterwards, I was asked four or five questions but I could not answer properly due to depression. The interview, which went with huge hopes, had left me in disappointment.

I enrouted to Visakhapatnam again

As I did not have any hope in results, I left for Visakhapatnam. In fact, the result came as expected. I was rejected in the interview. Self-made mistake crippled me. I was unable to concentrate on the work. That salary of Rs. 500 was seen less for me. The future doors to the Eenadu newspaper seemed to be closed for me. The bitter fact that I had to work as an NMR forever had struck me.

In addition to this, an elderly man's harassments increased more in the Visakhapatnam rural desk. In fact, he was a good man. But his mouth was not that so good. Once, when I requested for holiday to go to my village for Ugadi festival, he said that he would make me stand outside if I did not return in one day. These words shot my heart. I resigned the job as soon as I returned from home again.

Before my life was bright with a job in Vijay Electricals. I was given a status in the company. I even struggled a lot to pass in the exam. But with that rejection in the interview and the harassments in the desk made me to say Good Bye. Ultimately, my future became blank then.

Back to where I started.

With suitcase in hand, bag full of books and art works, left for my home. I didn't know what to do. I did not learn our caste occupation. I could not even practice doing business. I hoped for job only. That too, it was the one which I liked. Troubles surrounded me. Situation in house was also not proper. Our elder brother left us. There were two older sisters who grew up to be married. What if I remain as a motionless rock? I never wished to be a burden for my family.

Abhisarika

Abhisarika was a popular newspaper in our Samarlakota. Darbha Ramshah was the one who used to run the newspaper. Then, it did not earn notable name since it was seen as an obscene newspaper because of its major part was solutions to sex diseases. Only few people used to read it.

Since journalism was the only skill I knew, I decided to work in it. But few days later, our family members came to know about it. So, I'd to give up again.

Empty mind is the devil's workshop.

My situation was same as the title of this paragraph. I didn't have money. And I could not ask my mom for it. But she used to give me a little money. But I used to feel hesitated to take that money. Because, then our family's financial situation was not good at all. Though, I was young then, I was anxious about my future. There used to be often quarrels in home. I was tired of everything. So, I packed my luggage again and left for Hyderabad by Godavari Express. I started to live in my friend's room. Will it be good to join Vijay Electricals again? Will they identify me? Many doubts roamed in my mind. But the days were passing disappointingly.

The year of 1993

I'd seen an Add in a newspaper- 'Artists Wanted".

It was an Add given by the Saraswati Shishumandir group of schools. Their main aim was to spread the Hindu culture in the Telugu land. There were 300 schools under its management. Since I had a certificate in Art and Drawing from the Madras Technical board and my art works including caricatures and cartoons in Eenadu and hand-written Spandana newspapers, I went to request a job in it.

Artist and Editor!

Kunduru Vidwan Reddy used to look after the management responsibilities. He was a man with long beard and used to maintain a classical attire in white shirt and Dowati. He had a divine appearance which makes everyone salute to him.

I showed him all my works. He liked all of those and wished me best of luck. He called Kishore Das, who looks after accommodation services and introduced me as an artist and editor of "Spurthi" newspaper. He intimated him to provide me with a room. So, another inspirational journey had started now.

Elderly people like Acharya Kasireddy Venkata Reddy used to edit the stories and poems sent by the teachers and students of the schools across the state. They also used to prepare the details of meritorious students in the respective academic years. My job was to proof read and design it and make it composed in the Kisan Press located in Afzal gunj.

Most of the men in Saradadham used dress in dowatis. It was my favourite dressing style. I brought couple dowatis of my father. An Acharya named Somesh, taught me how to wear a dowati. We used to go for city and roam all around in that attire only.

I don't know why but my hope and respect for Eenadu were still alive.

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The year of 1994

One day, I'd read an Add in the newspaper. It was about wanted artists.

A company called Margadarshi Marketing Private Limited used to be affiliated with Eenadu. Small employees like artists, operators etc used to work in that company. I thought, "It's Ok!". I left for the five-storeyed Eenadu office building in Somajiguda. As said earlier, I used to have some hope that I must get a job in it. My all-time wish was also a job in Eenadu.

Purandhara Rao and Hemasekhar interviewed me. He doubted at me when I said that I'd already worked as an NMR sub-editor in Visakhapatnam Desk. He asked me whether I could do job there. In fact, he questioned me that whether I would work for at least six months. I, with lot of confidence said, "Yes sir!". But I could not stand on my word. That was another issue though. Finally, I stepped into the shade of Eenadu again.

A rented house in the city of Hyderabad

I met my old friends in Hyderabad and took a house for rent with their help. Days were passing. I used to go and come in city bus. I thought it would be better to bring my mom here so that her presence fills new joy in me. I compromised her when I went home. There were no reservations and AC compartments in train. We'd to sit in the seat till the end of journey. Her back ached like hell. She'd to encounter another problem after reaching the room.

My mom was 60 years old then. So, she could not sleep on floor. I was unable to afford a cot at that time since I'd less salary and huge room rent.

I'd got an idea after thinking a lot. I went to all the nearby tailor shops and collected the cloth remains. That bag full of cloth pieces was enough for me to make a small bed with a blanket. She'd to sleep on it for few days. A mother faces any trouble to save and nourish her child.

One day, an article in Pratibha page of Eenadu mini attracted me. It was entitled- "Application is also an art".

The article explained the best techniques while filling an application form. We must write our strengths, interests and the purpose of getting job in a letter. That too, in our own hand writing. I cut the clipping and saved it. In fact, it made a yet more significant turn in my life.

Notification for the School of Journalism released. My friend Venu asked me whether I'd applied for the exam. All of my friends knew that I'd

already worked in the Desk. I said No for them. I don't why but I picked up the paper and seen that notification hopefully. However, I left it after I remembered my past experiences. But still, my wish for Eenadu was hindering my mind to apply for the exam.

I took that saved clipping about art of applying and read it again thoroughly. I thought I was not prepared well in my past attempt. Now, I was confident enough because I knew the technique and was experienced.

This time, I wrote everything related to me in a letter format. Last time, I was unable to impress the panel with my improper explanation. Attempting is better than leaving it completely. So, I applied for it again. This attempt turned my entire life.

I covered almost everything which I failed to present in my past interview. I'd clearly explained my huge interest in journalism and had also addressed my skills in writing prose and poetry, painting. And also, about my hand-written newspaper Spandana which I'd run for 3 years when I working in Vijai Electricals.

I'd remembered the question raised by our chairman sir the last interview about doing journalism without a degree. I'd also given an explanation for it. I wrote.. No! I questioned- "Why do you care about a degree certificate which is available for Rs. 4000 to Rs. 5000 in the market?". I submitted my application to Ravi. Ultimately, my attempt was successful. My estimation became true. I was called for an interview.

This time I prepared very carefully so as to not repeat my past. I also prepared for an explanation of the letter if he asks.

Chairman's chamber was in the fifth floor.

Stepping in it is very rare.

Behind his chair, there will be a wonderful artwork made with brass. It attracts us at out very first sight. At its bottom, "Satyameva Jayate" was written to remember the virtues of a true journalist.

I visited that room 3 years back. Now this was second time.

The panel consisted the same members in my last interview.

After few primary questions, sir entered to directly to the main subject since I'd already worked in mini desk and advertisement department. He asked- "So you came again with never giving spirit?". "yes sir! I love journalism a lot", I replied thinking that I'd answered very greatly. In fact, 90 % of all the candidates say the same answer to impress the panel members.

"Do your read the Editorial page?", he asked.

"yes sir!". I replied.

"Can you say the daily features in it?"

I answered them quickly because I really read that page.

"What was your favourite title in it?".

"Punyabhumi title sir! it comes on every Sunday. I liked it a lot".

"why?".

"Because of its clear and critical explanation with comedic touch by including topics from mythology and history".

He is an expert estimating the depths of others. So, he again asked me a question to explain one of my favourite articles in recent times.

I chose an article which was published few weeks back.

The writer took an incident from the epic Mahabharata and compared it with present day politics. I explained it very clearly and impressively. I understood that they were also impressed with my performance in the interview. But they not left me. Still, they'd asked me about the writer of that article. I quickly answered- "Dharma Rao". They were satisfied with that. The interview was done. And as expected I got selected for the School of Journalism.

The School of Journalism

At last, I entered the School of Journalism. I used to sit in the first row. Budaraju sir used to teach us many lessons including Journalism and contemporary issues, history, language. Not this and that. He used to explain each and everything which is wisdom oriented. That too very clearly. I used to maintain a foot notes of his lessons. His class was not serious all the time. Sir used to make fun and comedy to fill excitement in us. That's why, all the students love his class.

He used to give a monthly assignment. We used to explore about the topic by reading books and newspapers in the library. Once I was told to write about financial freedom. There is a reason behind getting this topic.

While filling the standard application for the interview, they asked my political aspiration. I didn't know what to write. In addition to that, I was not a follower of any political party. But after thinking for some time, I wrote, "The country not only needs political freedom but also financial freedom". In fact, I thought it would be terrific to read. Actually, I know nothing about it. But now, I understood why sir assigned me work on that phrase.

I asked G.V.D. Krishna Mohan (present advisor to AP Govt) since he was an Economics student. He used to stay in our room only. Though, he explained me, I could not understand anything. Finally, I got some data after reading many books in our library.

Assignment written only with the proverbs..

Sir used to like the foot notes and my style of presentation with red and blue ink pens. My handwriting too. I used to say many proverbs in the class.

I became that popular, my friends even used to ask me for proverbs in every situation. Once our Telugu master gave an assignment. I completed it with proverbs only. Everyone was surprised. Like this, many memories saved in mind.

Finally, the six months course came closer to an end. In the last class, our Telugu master Dakshina Murthy sir asked a question to all of us- "Who is your favourite teacher"? in fact, most of them answered the name of Budaraju sir only.

In the end he again posed a question- "Most of you people like our principal Budaraju sir. but do you know who is his favourite student?".

Silence at once.

All of us were curious.

We requested sir to answer.

But continued his class saying that he would answer at the end of the class.

We'd not left sir.

We again asked him. Sir looked around and smiled. And he said, "Venku". Really, my mind was blocked at that moment.

It was in fact an honour for me in the School of Journalism. It will remain as an everlasting memory in my life.

At last, the date for convocation was declared. We would be receiving the certificates and our posting letters from the hands of our Chairman.

I expected a better posting. But unfortunately, I was given posting in Visakhapatnam Rural Desk again.

In one view, it disappointed me a lot. But it I had gathered little experience in that desk. In the past time, I worked as an NMR sub-editor on temporary basis. But now, I am an authorized journalist.

I remember that day when Desk Incharge Venkatesham warned me that he would make me stand outside if I not return in a day. Now, he had to work along with me. In fact, this posting was also a mark of moral win for me.

Then, I had a good name. I used to entitle the articles attractively and used to write good articles. I was given the responsibility of the agency.

Since then, our newspaper circulation was low in the agency. The news used to appear on main paper only when there was an accident or Naxal attacks or visit of any minister. If not, the news was limited to Zone page only. I changed this situation of the agency.

I wonder how day and night carry these many thoughts and memories.

There are numerous places in Andhra Pradesh state which are marvelous sites of beautiful nature.

I used to find news wherever I see. The injustice happening to Tribal people due to city men, policemen and the Naxalites, and corruptions in the crores of funds sanctioned for the welfare of the Tribal people etc. In addition to this, their amazing life style. Still, they follow Matriarchal system. Their different traditions of eating wild animals and dressing style, always thrills us. The struggle of Manyam warrior Alluri Sita Ramaraju. The house of British Officer Rutherford and he had imprisoned Alluri in a Jail. The list never ends.

We used to get news from everywhere. Our army of contributors is our strength. We had published many such topics in every page including Main, Mini, First Page, Centre spread, Sunday book etc. subsequently, I was appointed in Hyderabad later.

Chapter 32

Loss of Employment in crores

The COVID-19 which had revenged on mankind, is affecting all the platforms. Myriad number of people were subjected to loss of employment. People are worried a lot about the next phase of corona virus. Historians are describing it as the biggest crisis next to the second world war. International Labour Organisation concerned that about 125 crores of labourers' livelihoods were threatened. Indian labour organization warned that 40 crores of labourers might step into poverty. Lockdown restrictions which are being implemented to control the virus attack, unfortunately showing intense effect on employment. It seems the virus impact will be more severe in India than the rest of the world countries. Our nation is still developing. Moreover, most of the labourers in our country are "Unorganized". Experts cautioning that the virus should be controlled as soon as possible. If not, India will have to face much more adversities in future.

Corona spread and lockdown exhibited adverse impact on Indian Economy. Many big companies which had thousands of employees are experiencing total loss. As a result, they had to remove employees in order to meet maintenance expenses etc. specially, Finance Insurance, E-Commerce, FMCG companies chose this alternative of removing temporary employees. All the companies were following same strategy. Clients had reduced ordering work from companies. They had to give discounts for customers so as to save their business circle in these uncertain circumstances. In this process, incapable of paying salaries, companies issued job dismissal letters to HR teams. Some other companies, shortened the salaries. Even governments are reluctant to provide full salaries.

An e-commerce Start-Up company, Udan had imposed 10-15 percent salary cut. This impacted 3000 employees. Rupak, an online gold loan company followed same idea. But Online Food delivery companies like, Zomato, Swiggy assured their employees that only salaries will be amended and employees will be continued as usual.

One out of every six, loses their job

One out of six employees were losing their job. New Economics Foundation estimated that about 56 lakhs of employees (out of 3.2 crores) will lose their jobs. Britain govt announced a scheme with 312 lakhs of funds to support employees by paying 80 percent of their salaries.

Simmons: Huge deduction of employments.

Famous German company Simmons removed 2,700 employees worldwide in its Gas and Power unit. It informed that it had taken this decision so as to lessen its expenses. This company has 64,000 employees in 80 countries. It had a sensational record in 2018 with the profit of 377 Euros with the sale of 12.4 billion Euros sales. Since it had shifted from fossil fuel energy to renewable energy, the demand for tools of the electricity plant reduced which subsequently impacted the profit rate of the company.

Boeing to remove 12,000 employees

Reputed Aeroplane manufacturing company Boeing decided to remove 12,000 employees from its company. COVID-19 had severely impacted aeroplane industry. CEO Dave Calhoun informed the employees that they are going to reduce the manufacture of business jets in the upcoming years. He said 6,770 American employees will be removed while 5,520 employees voluntarily accepted to step out of the company. Dave stated that 10 percent of the company's employees were removed. America's income from Air services went down fall of 96 percentage in the month of April.

Rolls Royce dismissed thousands of employees

Rolls Royce holdings announced to remove 9,000 employments. It had no alternative left to decrease its expenditure. 1/17th part of its employees lost their jobs. Major part of employment loss was believed to be in UK. It may take years for the Aeroplane Industry to recover from the massive loss encountered during Lockdown.

Poverty affected 100 crores of population

A recent study explained the probability of increasement in poverty across the world due to the corona virus outbreak. About 100 crores of lives had to swim against poverty, a report submitted by Kings College London and Australian National University described. It wrote that the countries viz India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Philippines are likely to be more affected in these circumstances. Prof Andy Sumner alerted the developed countries since the probability of rapid transformation corona virus into financial crisis is significantly more than the rest of the countries. Another study reported that 30 percent of African nations are likely to be affected with poverty next to Asian nations. Researches called out the governments for taking necessary actions and to come with new resolutions so as to face the crisis. Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) estimated 6 percent of loss in the world financial system. It opined that it had never seen such a loss ever since the formation of its organization. Crores of people had come on to roads.

The poor and youth had to experience severe impact of the crisis. It increased inequality in the world.

World Bank's Alert

This will be the great economic downturn from the past 150 years.

World Bank had cautioned seriously about the unseen and unheard financial crisis which is now capturing the entire world. David Malpass, the president of World Bank said described the lockdown due to corona as the reason for the greater economic loss which the world is experiencing now. He added, this is the most outrageous financial crisis after the one in 1870. World had faced 14 financial crises after 1870. The present crisis ranked top among those past 14 crises.

World Bank also worried about the future consequences due to the crisis. It informed that the profit rate will decrease for 5.2 percent. In addition to financial effects, world will have to face to long-term socio-economic impacts that are more severe than expected. Subsequently, these impacts will weaken the long-term developmental opportunities.

David Malpass released a report called Global Economic prospect. He noted some key points in it. The most infected nations and the nations which depend on International Trade, Tourism, Exports, Foreign loans will have to face hectic impact in the coming days. The report estimated minus 2.5 rate of profit in the emerging and developing countries after the end of crisis.

He explained that this crisis impacted more in this 6o years after Second World war. David suggested that the governments of concerned nations should set necessary actions ready. He also stated that this crisis has impacted more than the Great Economic Depression during 1930-32.

World Bank listed out the 14 financial crises from 1870- 1870, 1876, 1885, 1893, 1908, 1914, 1917-21, 1930-32, 1945-46, 1975, 1982, 1991, 2009, 2020.

Greater crisis than the world wars

Man assumes himself as the greatest creature on earth. He creates an artificial world in the name of civilization and feels as a supreme emperor. He's in fact over confident that he had conquered the nature. But nature stands as the supreme entity though man comes up with advanced artificial intelligence. It is impossible for human to stand in front of nature in its ultimate destructive mode.

Corona had proved this axiom once again.

It's just an invisible microscopic creature. Till date, no one could able to see it. But yet everyone is at war with it- a waiter in New York, a coolie in Bangalore, a farmer in Telangana, a saloon worker in Kuwait. All of them are losing their lives. Corona, like a silent storm destructing everything.

The World Politics took a diversion. No one had the attention on USA president elections. No news from Syria. Iran focused on the rescue of its citizens.

This crisis is greater than that of World wars. Countries never went in isolations in the long history of the human race. Parks, theatres, temples etc were seen empty. The famous temple of Lord Venkateshwara in Tirumala had also been closed.

We thought that it was very far from our villages. But now it had directly entered our bodies. Jacksonville in Florida had registered 200 corona cases. I do not have any relation with this village. But one of my friends stays there. That's why I am worried. Italy had been fighting in the largest war against Corona virus since many days. Well! This is not only my concern but of the entire world.

Chapter 33

Sorrow and slaughter of the Wildlife

China is known as one of the strongest nations in the world. It constructed a long-massive wall across its boundary to protect itself from the enemies centuries ago. Do you know the one and only weakness of this Nation? - "Meat of wild animals"

Almost in every house in China, this word- Yeve is heard, which means wild (forest) tastes in Chinese language. According to the traditions of this country, eating wild animals is considered as a special right and the symbol of Bravery.

There are many restaurants which serve bat soup in various places of China.

Gravy made of tiger testicles, Soup made of Civet body organs, fried Cobra, fried palms of Bear, wine made of tiger bones, scorpion kababs, snake meat kababs, dogs, cats, crocodiles, pangolins many more animals appear in Chinese markets. Endangered animals like rare bird species, hedgehogs are sold in these markets. All the earthly creatures including scorpions, snakes, insects, locusts, grasshoppers, wolves, squirrels, jackals, salamanders, tortoises, gills, lizards, koalas, camels are seen here. While some transforms into fries, other into soups and wines.

The indiscriminate sale of wild animals in china is now exposed by Corona virus outbreak. Scientists are suspecting Wuhan market as the origin of corona virus.

In fact, 70 percent of new viruses are infected only due to animals, especially wild animals. China is aware of all these problems. But it seldom quits from doing so.

China is known for the largest wildlife sale market in the World. They think traditional medicines made of animal organs are capable of curing Impotence and Arthritis.

The shield of pangolin has a greater demand in Chinese markets. And it is also the most hunted animal in various countries of the world. Rhinoceros' horn is used in the preparation of traditional medicine in China. Hence, Rhinos are also endangered.

Therefore, China declared prohibition of wildlife rearing and selling. However, this is temporary only. It also prohibited in 2002 during the SARS virus outbreak. Wildlife conversation organizations appealed that the wildlife animals are close to the state of extinction.

WHO's Food safety scientist, Dr. Peter Ben Embarek indirectly criticised China. He said that we are going nearer to animal regions which are completely unknown to us. Therefore, we are now facing unknown diseases. WHO identified that SARS and MERS viruses are also infected due to Bats. These viruses also affected Civets and Camels.

He said that about 20 percent of 32,000 vertebrate species on earth are sold illegally in the markets. These also include 5,500 species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

The market value of illegal wildlife trade is 20 billion dollars. This occupies fourth position next to narcotic drugs, human trafficking, duplicate materials business.

In accordance to the last year's report, it is known that about 10 lakh species are endangered and close to the pyre of extinction. World nations should now open their eyes and realise the loss of wildlife. They must take necessary actions on protecting them. So that it will also benefit the mankind.

Chapter 34

That was the year of 1996

We can find beauty everywhere in the world surrounding us. In our areas wander, living regions and in the people too. There is joy in the mind that lives with togetherness. But we never observe it.

Life becomes enthusiastic and affectionate as soon as we realise beauty and love in everything that surrounds us. My relation with the beautiful city of Hyderabad is same as described. I was entrapped with the love and affection by the history and beauty of Hyderabad.

I'd completed one year training as a sub editor in Visakhapatnam. I got my posting in Hyderabad city desk. I felt some trouble in the initial days since city life was new for me. However, in the past, I worked in Vijay electricals earlier in 1988 and did few kinds of jobs. But I can to say that I am a complete Hyderabadi only after 1996.

I used to feel a special bond with this city's history and heritage though I'd less introduction with it. Narasimha Rao was in charge for Hyderabad city desk. He was born in Adilabad but brought up in Hyderabad. He had been working as a lead in Hyderabad city Bureau since five-six years. Therefore, I was able to know everything regarding Hyderabad from him only.

I wonder whether my mother's words were true or not. But she used to say that I've a divine bond with this city. Here's tradition and culture strike my mind all the time that I'd experienced somewhere before. The Charminar, history of the Nizam nawabs etc thoughts always leave me in an enigma. Ultimately, I can say that I've a special affection with this land now. since I am a professional here.

In the year 1997, when India was celebrating its Silver Jubilee of Independence, Eenadu had planned for special stories. I was given the responsibility of the stories on the Freedom fighters and the history of the Freedom movement in Hyderabad.

Meanwhile, I used to clarify my doubts with our Incharge Narasimha Rao. He used to bully me funnily that people unaware of Hyderabad's history are ineligible to work in Hyderabad desk. But finally, I came to know about the great history of Hyderabad with this golden opportunity.

Later, in leisure times, I used to roam around Charminar, Mecca Masjid with photographers Sampath, Vasanth and Rajamouli. I am not sure about the number of times and number of ways that I'd used Charminar's picture for Hyderabad Mini edition. There were many occasions of mine, publishing the images of beautiful Charminar during Ramadan. Literally, I used

to wander in the old streets of Hyderabad at mid nights. Just to capture those rare-beautiful images.

I'd got one more opportunity to explore the history of Hyderabad in 2002 during the Baldia Elections. Management ordered to publish a special annexure in this regard. I thought to start with the history of Hyderabad. Therefore, I consulted our Political Science lecturer at School of Journalism, Tallapragada Satyanarayana Murthy sir to provide me the details of ancient history of Hyderabad. I'd also collected the data from books like "Legends of Hyderabad' and other local contributors. We had got a significant response for the stories in Hyderabad history published for a month.

Once again in the year 2008, I'd got the chance to explore more. Musi river floods in 1908 left a great tragedy in the history of the city of Hyderabad. Since it had been a century from then, we'd planned to print special stories on its remembrance as well as showcasing the drawbacks of administrators till date. Immediately, I began my quest for the data.

There will be a short panel on the wall outside in the Chaderghat police station, wrote as "1908 Flood level". I saw this panel somewhere in the past. And also, in Mangalhat police station, I'd seen the same kind of panel which measures the flood water level. I remembered a board kept beside a tamarind tree in Osmania University which had saved 100 lives. I'd brought their photographs.

I decided to collect the details of the disaster occurred exactly hundred years ago on these dates September 26, 27, 28. I wished to provide exact information on how floods threatened the city hour to hour. So, I started my research.

In those days, Deccan Chronicle used to publish the stories often on the history of Hyderabad. Below the stories, under photo courtesy a name called Shafiuddin was seen in small fonts. I searched for him and came to know that he was an authorized historian of Nizam trust.

I was excited to meet him. When I reached him and said my wish, he also accepted joyfully. In just 2-3 days, he wrote everything detailed. He also provided me those old photographs. We'd got a massive response for the stories on how water levels increased hour to hour and how the city got sunk in water. These stories had been published for 4 days. Many more historical events and aspects were selected and converted as a book. It had also given a pleasing output.

Chapter 35

New scientist from our family

My friend Virologist Venkatesh had called me.

He said world scientists trying severely to invent the vaccine for corona virus.

It's true! Scientists work very hard for the development of technology.

By the way, there is little scientist in our home too. I don't know why. But my daughter Vishnuvachana's ambition since childhood, was to become a scientist. Whenever someone asks, "what do you want to become in future?", she used to give an immediate answer, "I'll become a great scientist".

She opted Biotechnology according to her wish.

Corona had hindered her. Otherwise, she would have joined in PG by now. She had also applied for Banaras University and the Central universities of Delhi and Pune.

Time has to decide.. whether she would be hailed like Marie Curie or Helen Keller. Everything was good. But for parents, it's hard to digest the fact of living life without daughter or son. I was also worried a lot.

For the first time, my daughter had to live far away from us.

I could remember my experience when I travelled to Hyderabad by Godavari train with a suitcase in hand exactly at the same age. I still wonder how I had led my life in this Greater Hyderabad city when there was no availability of information technology.

Yes! Life teaches us everything. It provides us the requirements for sure. You know what's required? "It is Determination".

Common man faces troubles and sorrow. But a clever man acquires opportunities from the experiences. Schools and Colleges just teach lessons from the textbooks. But if you want to progress in life, self-experiences are the only best teachers for you. We generally do observe things around us. But if observed with heart, I am sure, definitely one can find opportunities surrounding us. They pave paths for progress in life. We just need the skill and patience to catch them.

See my dear! 'No one will preach you if I do not preach you as a father. If you know these, your heart might not be wounded in any situations in the future.

Few things need to be remembered very carefully, my child! Fortune and Misfortune are unstable in life. No one can estimate them precisely.

1.Do not build hatred with unamicable people around you. Remember except your parents, no one has the responsibility to do good for you. Be grateful with nice people. Observe everyone because behind every deed of a person there will be a purpose for sure.

2.It is not certain that one will remain friendly forever. Be careful! Do not believe them blindly. They can hurt your heart. When you understand this, you will not be affected though something or someone very close to you leaves you.

3.It's not necessary to mention again that you are a girl child. But in this contemporary world, its more necessary to keep it mind and behave accordingly. Again, it's not that you should bend your back. You should hold your head straight. Never bend it anywhere unnecessarily.

4.Life is very short, my dear! If one day is wasted, it means you have lost a well-spendable day. Learn to experience each and every second of life. I wonder nothing will be more beautiful than this process.

5.Love is an unstable emotion. It changes according to time and mood. Do not depress when your loved ones are lost. Be patient. Time will heal every wound. Love is just a feeling. Do not imagine its beauty and its failure overly. As time passes, you will be knowing that these are all not big issues in life.

6.Many people might had reached greater positions uneducatedly. It's not that you will become great uneducatedly. Remember! Wisdom is the only weapon for you in entire life.

7.Keep your word if you promise something to somebody. Be nice to everyone. But do not wish everyone to be nice with you.

8.World neither completely the worst nor the best. Your thoughts make your appearance. Your words make everything good.

9.Let us save the memories. No matter how short they are. Because we don't know our next birth right?

Girl child do not belong to our home. After a period of time, she has to be sent to her husband's home. It's nature's law. Now, I have the hope that you will return again. But not after married right!

Dissociation can make anyone helpless. Some unknown stagnation fills my heart. It's true dear! Our home in your absence will be like an empty station after the train's departure.

Chapter 36

AIIMS says Indians are capable of facing COVID-19

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) determined the efficiency of Indians in facing the virus. It concluded that no major symptoms of virus were seen in the infected patients.

Scientists adapted rapidness in conducting experiments. AIIMS had performed a new research on the genetic sequence of COVID-19. It analysed the strategy of facing virus in the infected people. It identified that the 7 species of corona virus had spread up to 42 percent in India.

The departments of Biochemistry, Pediatrics, Gynaecology, prepared a report on the virus behaviour and its genetic analysis.

Efficient Battle over Corona virus

Corona virus of type A2A exhibits its existence in 2 or 3 days after entering the body. But whereas the rest of the virus types were weak and not showed any symptoms. Scientists said that body cells are efficient enough to face those virus types. They had identified these aspects in the research performed on infection of the 4 virus types in the body.

They discovered that the body had been stimulating immunity over the concerned virus type. A research conducted by CCMB identified another corona virus type i.e. 1A3I. It was evident that our India consists 50 percent of this virus type. Medical experiments opined that such researches should increase and therefore take part in inventing vaccine to the virus.

37 Chapter

I am a blessed soul

Few people appear completely when seen in any angle. We cannot have two times introductions with people. One should be connected to a person at his/her very first word and sight.

Some people leave us as fast as they enter our lives. While some other, get connected unexpectedly to us and leaves an unforgettable mark in life. Not as personalities. They become our world… They become our everything… Such kind of connections with people increases the taste of life. They share immeasurable love and affection.

In fact, we will be introduced to many people in our lifetime. They go in flow with time. Reasons are not needed. Perhaps, living in the same street or belonging to same village or working in the same office or doing same business. It can be any reason. We may have relations with them for years. But only few of them reach our heart. We might not meet them very often. Though, there are no face-to-face conversations for years, their relation with us stands for decades. The reason might be the greatest bond between two hearts.

Their four words are enough to make life to life relation. I too have such friends of mine in my life,

The first one is Ramu Chinthala. He belongs to Nalgonda district. At present, he is living in Indiana Polis of USA. He is a software engineer. I met him in the Facebook. He often enquires my well-being. He is very spiritual and also a great follower for my articles on Amarnath Yatra written in Facebook. After, knowing about my Amarnath yatra, he had bought and sent me the necessary thermals for my journey. Once, he had specially come to our house just to meet me when he arrived India. These are all happy things for me.

The second person, Prasad Mantrala. Long back 15-16 years ago, he used to work as SR Nagar contributor when I was looking after the Hyderabad city Mini edition. Presently, he's working in a reputed company in London.

He had also met me in Facebook. I was amazed when he recapped me my old articles and news stories. Recently, he came to our home. That too, with a nice coat as a gift.

The third person, Prasanna Kiran Pokuri. He's working in news Channel. He is a great reader of my stories written on building a house. Probably, he will be the first person to appreciate me for my FB posts. Once

we had went to a tour. In our return, he came to know our journey and came to the railway station just to give us food and fruits. That too in the mid night. He is a kind man. I cannot forget his affection.

The fourth person, Venkatesh. He is a virologist in the famous pharmaceutical company Merck, America. He is a spiritualist too. He had born in a very poor family and was brought up with his self-power. He had completed his Biotechnology course in Bangalore and PhD in Pune National Institute of Virology. For few years, he had conducted research in Atlanta. Now, he is working as a senior scientist. He plays a key role in the vaccine experiments. He had told many matters regarding Corona, Vaccine and the precautions to be taken.

I must thank Facebook for introducing me to many such friends with great personalities. It's difficult to mention all of them here. But I thank all of them.

"Friendship needs heart. In this world full of fake minds, a voice that speaks truth is even more necessary".?

The biggest terror in everyone was facing the virus spread in areas with high public density.

Specially, the Slums! The most challenging problem is controlling the virus spread in the Asia's largest slum area.

Dharavi.. the biggest slum area in cosmopolitan city Bombay covers 2.5 square kilometres of area and is populated with 5 lakhs of poor people. For every 100 square feet, 8-10 people live in it. Here 80 percent of the people utilize public toilets. Houses and small factories are found in those small lanes. And most of the residents here are daily wage workers. They don't cook food. They will eat food outside. This area was exposed to the world due to the movie "Slumdog Millionaire". Many business school students and city planners across the world had visited this area for their research on the traditional market which worth hundred crores.

On 1st April 2020, the first corona case was recorded in Dharavi. By third week of June, the daily number of cases had decreased from 43 to 18. Officers controlled the virus spread efficiently by declaring it as containment zone and providing nutritious food to the positive patients etc.

Municipal stuff says, sending the identified positive patients to quarantine helped in controlling the virus spread. Doctors had worked hard for testing the people by forming medical camps. They even reached to house door by van to do their duty. About 3,60,000 tests were conducted by doctors. The medical staff were well-trained and screened 80 people a day with PPE kits, Infrared thermometers and Oximeters etc…

Persons with fever were immediately sent to COVID-19 test. Later, sent to government quarantines if determined positive. Schools, Function halls, sports complexes were transformed into quarantine centres. Patients were taken care and sent to nearest govt or private hospitals in case of emer-

gency.

It is believed that the deaths are less due to larger number of Youth in the slum. Most of the infected people belonged to the age group between 21-50. Private doctors also joined the fever camps and took part in the battle.

Free meals are provided for the proper implementation of quarantine. Rich men, political leaders, non-profitable charities provided thousands of plates of free food. Bollywood actors donated in huge amounts of money in purchasing in Oxygen cylinders, Masks, Medicine, Ventilators etc. Mumbai citizens are well-cultured. They work jointly in times of emergency. Aarmida Fernandez who works in a charitable organization, had said that people in Dharavi cooperated officers in controlling the virus infections.

However, corona virus had severely impacted Dharavi in economic terms. This area is best-known for leather industry, pottery, stitching etc. About 5,000 small scale industries can be found here. There are almost 15,000 workshops which run in a single room. Dharavi is the centre for plastic recycling in Mumbai.

Dharavi had been attracting the skilled since decades. Due to lockdown, 1.5 lakh people had to migrate to their native places.

Some people borrowed money by keeping gold or any valuable materials with the regional business men. With this, they had to sunk in loans.

I was amazed at the speed of time…

It had been two years for our House Warming Ceremony.

Many of my friends, well-wishers stood beside me in every step and had given precious suggestions. They assumed our house as their house and gathered all the necessities for it. Our builder Ramachandra Rao alias Raja and the labourers had really worked hard for building our house. I salute to all those who helped me and supported me.

I think.. for about one and a half year, our house was full of discussions about it. Because, building our own house is always a special event for everyone in their life. And that too, I've built it with love and hard work. May this may be the reason for being so affectionate towards our house.

Shelter is a primary need for human. He had lived under trees and in caves. Gradually, he started to build his own hut after he became intelligent. Finally, now in present day, he can able to build sky scrapers.

Generally, many people get assets and houses as heritage.

Despite the greatness of heritage properties, building a house on our own, is something great. Because, I can feel the enthusiasm caused by it. Selecting the land area, land registration, planning, selection of contractor, utilization of material, quality, elevations etc… thinking about all these aspects may be the reason for my happiness. In fact, it was like a penance for

me.

A home may consist only one room or may be group of rooms. What so ever it is. It is a home.

I think we all might have dreams on building a new home in childhood. This dream itself makes us search for a new home after we grow adult.

Houses are again of two types- own house, rented house. Rented house is also a home only but it's not permanent. We wish to build a house of our own no matter small or big… but a home for our own.

Again, a home is not just a box of four walls, but a collection of family members, relationships, intimacies etc. That's why, most of the people assume their home as heaven.

From the foundation of our home, many of my friends, colleagues, FB friends took part in its construction. Many of them had visited too. They had highly appreciated me for building our house. It is an undeniable fact that construction of our home was complete only with the prayers, advices and instructions of my people.

Government hospitals

The days in government hospital were getting heavier and worse.

I remembered my experience of writing a sarcastic article on these very hospitals earlier. Interestingly, I used to entitle my articles and stories both sarcastically and funcastically. As a result, those articles were also highly publicised. Many other newspapers use my titles on hospitals even now a days.

Once, there was a strike by the junior doctors of Gandhi Hospital, Hyderabad. They all had boycotted their duties and came out to assemble. They had made a scarecrow of the government and laid it on the ground. They had started kicking the scarecrow and played with it like that of football.

Our photographer friend Ramesh had captured a nice photo and brought to me. I could sense joyfulness in those junior doctors. Another side, there used to be a news on the miserable conditions of patients in hospitals for sure. So, I wrote an article with an intro entitled as "Games with patients' lives?". It had got a mass response due to my sarcasm and visualization of the reality.

There are many such incidents, pointing out the defaults of govt hospitals and doctors. I used to be very angry on govt hospitals because poor people with lot of faith in government and doctors, come to government hospitals. They make poor people suffer with their demand for money. Once upon a time, I captured few doctors photograph while they were performing a surgery to a patient. I edited that photograph by replacing the doctors' heads with

hawks' heads. It was OK in those days, but if it had been now, then it would have become a problem for me.

But now I am unfortunate to be in this very government hospital.

There was no difficulty for me that day morning. But there used to be body pains in night time due to fever. So, I informed the nurse. She told me to rest for night by taking paracetamol tablet and doctor will check me the next day. That's all! She did not care me again.

There have been many such outrageous experiences. All those arrangements here were like cattle sheds. No cleanliness. Surroundings were full of dust. No fresh water. Mosquitoes often bitten me. No one cared me except two times after being placed on the bed. I was unable figure out what was really happening.

I must expose the reality of this hospital

On one side, corona concern and tension. On the other side, unclean surroundings. Patients were kept in filthy and unclean places. if situations remain the same, the patients will be subjected even more illness. Why officers are so negligent? My mind was full of all such thoughts.

My body was extremely weak. No proper conditions for patients. Hygiene food was not provided. As a whole, hours were like days for me. I prayed god a lot to make the sun rise earlier.

I strongly decided to expose the reality of hospitals to the world outside. I took a video visualising the miserable conditions in the medical wards and uploaded it in social media. It went viral. Known and unknown people reacted positively. It had also reached the government also.

I was not afraid because I had little awareness on corona. But I was concerned a lot. What had happened to me? What was going to happen next? How would I be treated? Many such questions used occupy my mind. Doctors are not the one who come regularly. They never spoke to me anything. There were no one to answer my doubts. Because it's corona. And it's a rare one. I only used to take the medicine prescribed by them. All the doctors were dressed same alike. So, it became difficult for me to recognise them. Their face and body everything was covered with protective wear. They never told me that they were the doctors. In fact, this was the biggest confusion for me.

I can empathize their mental pressure of treating patients. But I also thought it would be better if they understand patients' mental condition also. However, there was a change in conditions later.

Now, there were 6 other patients with me in this ward. All of them belong to the age category of either 50 or 60. They requested doctors to test BP and sugar levels in their body. But no one cared. They were worried with their health. I used to heal them. There is justice in their request. But situation was not in my hand.

All though, we were provided food according to exact time, it was not eatable for us. Few of my wardmates used to get fruits from their homes. Few days later, there was deficiency of vitamin C in my body. As usual, they prescribed medicine. However, the hospital was providing free corona treatment. Actually, this is a better sign from govt hospitals than that of ruthless private hospitals.

Once, two doctors and two nurses arrived near my bed. Their behaviour was as usual. They were discussing something in themselves. I could listen only English words in their conversation. I thought, perhaps, they might me discussing about any other disease and the respective medicine. But however, it was meaningless for me. In fact, they should speak with patients. Not with themselves. It was not surprising though. Because, this is the attitude of government hospitals which is being maintained since generations.

Yesterday's sweet memories make us forget today's miseries.
Past life relations defenestrate present life's loneliness.

It's a new power to face all the present problems and challenges.

It is called as "Nostalgia". A treatment with memories. Researchers say, nostalgia is a great immune system created by brain to face depression and loneliness.

It's normal that we preserve experiences as memories.

In this modern time, memories are not restricted to photos. But they are joined and made as collages with attractive frames. Filling a wall with all the photos is a new trend in these days.

In the past two decades with Eenadu newspaper, there are many stories, articles, graphics framed with my thoughts in mind. As a journalist in Eenadu, there are many milestones in my life. From nothing to something, all these have turned as steps and made me climb higher altitudes in life. There are incidents which I'd spent day and night in the office itself.

Generally, sub-editors of newspapers are allotted with night duties. I would go in the evening and send the paper for printing after editing the paper. That satisfying moment of watching freshly printed newspaper after processing and printing is like taking a new born baby in to hands affectionately.

In fact, sub-editor's duty is only to edit and make up the received news. But being an artist in the past, I was never satisfied with the work of others. So, I learnt Graphics designing in Photoshop. In those days, I was given Eenadu Hyderabad Mini. It's an edition of 24 pages. It means there is a big canvas in front of you. You can do anything at your wish. There will be lot encouragement if one shows little creativity in his/her work. I would never forget the support rendered by the Eenadu management and its higher officers.

I'd gathered all my news clippings which include the articles during

Hyderabad floods, Baldia Elections and many more. I had worked some thousand hours sitting before the system and my obsession in doing the work. Then, I changed them into PDF's and stored in DVD's. Four years back, on the occasion of completing two decades in journalism, I made a design with all the clippings that attracted numerous people and it had also filled a new enthusiasm in me.

After our new house construction, I thought it would be good to make a wallpaper with those clippings and stick it to a wall in the hall.

After a lot of struggle and quest for the right person to accomplish my wish, our wallpaper designer gave me the phone number of a printer from Delhi and made me speak to him. He spoke to me very well. I had a hope on him. In fact, he was impressed with my wish and creativity. At last, on a fine day, the courier boy delivered a courier containing my wished item.

Finally, the wallpaper was fixed to the wall. I remember my past creativity and the appreciation for my work in Eenadu for 2 decades when I see that wallpaper. In fact, it fills new excitement and enthusiasm which drives me even forward.

Doctors are Gods…

Doctors continuously worked hard at their best in fighting against COVID-19. But the saddest thing was the dead doctors did not get deserved farewell from their closed ones.

Funerals were carried out in the absence of families and relatives. Much more miserable incidents were hinderances to funeral of the dead.

A doctor belonging to Nellore, had died due to COVID-19. The local people carried out his funeral carelessly amidst of protests. A doctor's funeral in Meghalaya was carried out by the municipal workers. Most of the funerals who lost their lives due to virus infection were carried in this way only. Even family members were afraid to reach the dead body. While some regional people were hindering by throwing stones. Funerals had to be carried out under high security.

In fact, virus doesn't infect from the dead body. WHO already informed the method of carrying out funerals. But terror and concern making people furious and scarce of awareness. A Punjabi singer who had received Padma sri, was died due to virus. villagers did not allow the dead body to enter in. Graveyards were locked. At last, funeral was carried out at the village outskirts. Many such miserable incidents had come into light across India. What will be more miserable than this?

Chapter 38

Good news from British scientists..

In this horrible corona period, I came across a happy news in a website. The summary of the news was that British scientists had been conducting successive experiments to invent a treatment method for COVID-19.

Researches identified that the number of T-cells in highly infected patients was very low.

T-cells play a vital role in decreasing the infection.

Scientists concentrated on a medicine called Interleukin-7 whether it is capable of increasing T-cells. If it works, severely infected patients can also be cured.

London Kings College, Guy's and St Thomas Hospital doctors had also gone through researches on T-cells and concluded that their number was decreased in huge numbers.

Prof Andrean told, that it was surprising to observe the state of immunity cells.

T-cells tries to save us. But the virus might had been damaging the layer below the cells. This could be the reason for decrease in T-cells. In one ml of healthy person's blood drop, 2,000 - 4,000 Lymphocytes or T-cells are found.

But in the infected person's sample, its number was between 200 - 1,200.

India reaches top place among six nations in 33 days.

Oxford University revealed a new study which stated that among the great nations like America, Britain etc, India was seen successful in control and treatment of COVID-19. According to the report published by Oxford COVID-19 government response tracker (OXCGRT) on 11 April, India stood in the top place.

It had also studied the preparedness of the governments of America, Britain, Italy, Spain, Germany etc. It had considered the government functioning during the severe virus spread from March 9 to April 10 and came about some interesting topics in the process.

The research was conducted on 12 topics which included Implementation of lockdown, bringing awareness in people, safety measures for rescue of financial system, sanction of emergency funds for medical and

health departments, facilitation of test centres, tracing the people were in contact with the infected patients. In accordance with the report, India ranked first place with 100 points by 10th April 2020. Spain and Italy stood second with equal points of 95.20. Germany, Britain and America occupied third, fourth and fifth places respectively. But later, situations turned worst.

India joined the list of top five countries with virus intensity.

Virus had reached peak stage in few nations including America. Countries like India were being cautioned to take necessary precautions to avoid the danger. Pulmonologist Dr. Aravind Kumar had expected the rise in number of cases in future. Lockdown regulations, Workers' migration, increasing the tests. However, India had reached top in the list of World's largest number of corona virus cases.

Third place in death rate.

India occupied third place in list of number of deaths while America (18) first and Brazil (13) were at the top two places respectively. India's death rate is comparatively less than the half of World average death rate and Iran's death rate. Former Chairman of Indian Public Health Association, Dr. Chandrakanth Pandey warned governments to strengthen the strategies in controlling the virus intensity. Fortis Hospital Doctor Vikas Maurya commented that it is important how govt mechanism gains control over the present situation.

Lockdown malfunctioned

PM Modi declared lockdown for 21 days on 24th March 2020 to control the pandemic. Though, Central and state governments implemented lockdown, the cases had increased day by day due to few incidents across the nation. Thus, Central govt decided that lockdown was mandatory to control the virus spread. So, it extended for another 19 days. This decision had showed serious impact on Indian Financial system. Central govt announced 1.7 lakh crores package when it declared lockdown for the first time.

Lockdown had troubled migrants, poor and the middleclass people. Hunger increased due to lack of jobs. Migrant labourers travelled to their native places by walk. Few of them were died in the journey itself. Yet, virus impact had not decreased. So, govt again decided to extend lockdown for another 17 days i.e. May 17. This time it provided few exemptions. Central govt had facilitated "Shramik Rails" for migrant labourers to reach their native places. But corona virus had not relaxed yet. Cases increased much more rapidly.

On May 12, Modi addressed the nation with the sanction of 20 lakh crores package. He said that the package was designed to comfort all the sec-

tors and categories. Central govt once again extended lockdown for May 31 keeping in view of virus spread.

Corona took its ultimate form due to the exemptions provided in Lockdown-4. The number of daily cases had crossed 90,000 mark now. This was an evidence to the fact that so far, no country in world had registered these many cases in a single day. It concerned about its people. By May 25, domestic Air services and by June 1, 200 passenger rails were started. The strict implementation of lockdown would severely impact the financial system of the nation. At the same time, lockdown exemptions threatened people's health. Corona virus hadn't come into control though govt took severe actions and people followed precautions with care. This created the panic attack.

Research paper on 4 lockdowns

People had welcomed the decision of initial lockdown in India. Experts opined that this time period would be enough to plan the necessary actions against corona virus. But the number of corona cases increased again day by day. Till date, the arrangements were not up to the mark.

Professor Bhramar Mukherjee had written a research paper on the number of corona cases and the actions taken by government of India in controlling the pandemic.

The research paper was based on the Suspectable Infected Recovered Model when the lockdown duration was up to April 14. Associate professor Parikshit Ghosh of Delhi college of economics had also to part in framing the research paper. He told BBC that only lockdown cannot control the virus spread. In addition to lockdown, alternative methods must be followed.

He had told that the package of 20 lakh crores by the central government would support the industrial sector and will be able to solve the cash flow problem.

Ghosh suggested the methods implemented by the Singapore government to control the virus spread. Singapore govt had given rupees 5000 for the people who were state corona positive to stay in quarantine.

As a result, people were not feared to go for tests. Contact tracing was also made easy. Public were not troubled to stay in isolation. In India, the duration of quarantine is 21 days. Poor had some troubles in this process. Therefore, they were confused to go for tests. Ghosh had also opined that lockdown wouldn't be mandatory if such methods are adapted in India also.

Prevention is better than cure

Did our leaders not understand this health axiom? Or did they lose their sense of discrimination by being habituated for meaningless decisions. It was crystal-clear that the governments had not taken any precautionary measures in the right time. Governments were with careless attitudes while neighbouring nations were being infected with virus. Though, governments knew that virus infections were because of foreign travellers, they showed incautious behaviour towards virus control. In fact, we would be able to control virus spread in the beginning itself if we were alert when neighbouring nations informed virus infections in their homelands. India would have controlled virus in the primary phase itself, if all the passengers who came to India before and after 15 days were quarantined. But those passengers were given permission to leave after a simple temperature check. We would have seen India as a corona free nation rather than free corona spread nation.

Leaders had entry to corporate hospitals. But the poor?

Many myths and terrors about COVID-19 were evolved in people. They were frightened to go for corona test though symptoms were seen in them. People thought they wouldn't return home once they entered government hospitals and were not interested to take test voluntarily.

But the leaders, however had entry to corporate hospitals. But what about the common man and poor people? Many of the uninfected people escaped from the quarantine centres assuming that they would be infected with the corona positive people who were present in the same quarantine centre. Leaders did nothing in bringing awareness about corona virus. Leaders had not showed interest in this process as they had shown in programmes bhajans, lightening diyaas and spraying flowers. COVID-19 tests, lockdown regulations, migrant workers, helping the people who were trapped in the midst of their journey from native places to far destinations, all these facilities were seen unorganized and a lot of mess evolved in this process. Various states had various methods in doing so. But the pandemic was a national level issue then. However, leaders with meaningless, sudden decision taking attitudes will love to do bhajans etc, but not spend time in listening to noise of the common and the poor.

Corona attack

It was not surprising to come across the carelessness of citizens in taking precautions against corona virus spread. How will the people follow rules while leaders who play vital role, showed indiscriminative and irresponsible attitudes in their duties. It was notable that most of the negligent people were literates. They had not thought to care about own countrymen rather than showcasing the pride of continental travels. Many of such people swallowed fever tablets to escape temperature test in the airports. "cover nose and mouth with mask, maintain social distance, wash hands, do not roam reasonlessly, do not form groups in name of devotion", many precautions were being shouted at people's ears. In addition to this, officers in responsible designations welcomed group deaths on red carpet. Result!!! Corona crisis. Positive cases were registered on record level.

Corona virus might remain with us forever

WHO Emergencies chief, Dr. Michael J. Ryan announced that thus virus might not leave us forever. He had stressed the necessity of massive trail in controlling the pandemic.

Corona might transform as an epidemic in our societies. It is important to remember that the virus might not leave us anymore, Ryan said clearly. He exemplified HIV virus in this aspect.

Community Transmission and Herd Immunity

Corona virus cases were increasing across the world including India. Since the cases number was huge, questions like Community Transmission and Herd Immunity were heard very often. But Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) told that there was chance for Community Transmission.

How it is transmitted in a community?

ICMR explained the four phases in the corona virus spread. First phase includes identification of foreigners as corona positive. India had passed this phase. Because, the virus had spread in regional levels already. Second phase includes virus spread. Third phase is Community transmission. In this phase, finding the first infected person becomes difficult. Every virus has the fourth phase. At that period, it transforms as a pandemic at regional level.

What is Herd Immunity?

If a disease gets spread in a larger part of the population, those people's immunity power helps in hindering the disease spread.

It means, entire people can fight against the disease and cure completely from it. In the sense, the immunity traits get developed in them and they'll become immune from the disease. Ultimately, the antibodies will be set ready to face the virus.

How 'herd immunity' occurs?

The danger of virus spread decreases gradually as people become immune. By this, the uninfected people and those with no immunity will get protection.

Edward Sanchez who serves as Chief Medical officer at America Heart Association tried to explain it in his blog.

If most of the people in a human herd gets immunity, then it will be difficult for the virus to spread to the people in middle. In the sense, the virus spread will end at a limit. But this process takes time. If extremely sensitive persons are tested safe in any vaccination programme, that can also be considered as Herd Immunity.

In accordance to an estimation, herd immunity in the people of a society is said to be Herd Immunity progressed if 60 percent of the people become immune after getting infected.

80 percent of immunity is needed

But according to the details of John's Hopkins University, 80 percent of immunity was mandatory. However, it also depends on the symptoms of the epidemic.

Measles, Polio, Chicken pox are examples for epidemic diseases. Once a upon a time, these were very often. But now they are very rare in places like America. Because they had reached the stage of Herd Immunity.

Virus can be infected from immune people to weak people or children before vaccine is made. This matter was identified while preparing vaccines for many diseases and viruses.

Virus like flu alter themselves along with time. That's why our old antibodies will not work. Such viruses infect us again. Flu alters in a year only. SARS-COV-2 which was responsible for COVID-19 is similar to corona viruses. We can think that the people who gained immunity against it will not be infected anymore in the future. But we cannot say that we'll remain same in our entire life.

Running race for vaccine invention

Scientists believed that vaccine is the only solution to control the virus and to make sure that it will not rise in the future also.

Presently, 124 organisations are in competition for preparing the first coronavirus vaccine. Few organisations told that the virus will be ready by September and it will take 12 to 18 months for its distribution.

Prof Jorge Kalil, medical director at University of Sao Paulo advised to concentrate on the preparation of efficient vaccine rather than hurrying for

first vaccine.

Kalil's opinion was that the virus can be killed completely only with an effective vaccine that can cure people with weak immune system like elders.

Bharat Bio steps forward in the preparation of vaccine

Covaxin, developed by Bharat Biotech company stepped forward. Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) approved Bharat Biotech company to arrange first and second phase of clinical trials. Bharat Biotech announced that the first and second phase of clinical trials for humans will be arranged in the month of July. Bharat biotech is developing Covaxin vaccine with the help of Indian council of medical research and National institute of virology Pune. It had prepared vaccine in the Biosafety level 3 laboratory of Bharat Biotech located near Hyderabad.

Oxford vaccine reaches final phase

Vaccine developed by Oxford University had reached its final phase of trials. Jenner Institute Director Prof Adrian Hill leader of this project, informed that it had given good results in most of the people. He said that their vaccines CHDOX 1, NCOV-19 had given the desired results. Volunteers of AstraZeneca and Brazil were also tested in this process. 2000 people in South Africa participated in the vaccine experiments. 4000 people in Britain registered. Alok Varma, a Business Secretary Britain was the first person to take Covid vaccine.

What should India concern about?

Atlantic Magazine Science writer Ed Yong analysed that various aspects social distance, facilitation of testing camps, age, properties, social integrity, fortune etc are determining the pandemic's formative structure.

Sudden implementation of lockdown across the nation made crores of unorganized labourers migrate to their native places. Due to these migrations, virus spread was increased. 80 percent of the recent cases in Odisha were migrant labourers.

"That's why, we should not consider the virus as a national pandemic. We should assume it as state pandemic and should take necessary actions accordingly", said Ambarish Satwik, surgeon at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi.

Dr. Mukharjee told that medical care needs to be strengthened so that facing unstable virus spread will become easy. The medical care facilities should be shifted from low places to highly affected places.

Did lockdown benefit people of the nation?

Experts considered implementation of lockdown as a clever step. Dr. Zhuge said, "No country other than India had implemented lockdown so fast. With this, govt had got the time to plan precautionary actions". But this was a sudden announcement. Thus, the unorganized labourers had to evacuate as soon as possible. Unfortunately, governments failed to facilitate their journeys. Subsequently, virus spread was increased even more. However, it is yet to be revealed that to what extent did the govts utilized the time to strengthen medical services and increase number of tests. The states of Kerala and Karnataka seemed to be more efficient than the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Delhi etc. India might not had failed in controlling Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Delhi if it could had prepared well. People had no faith in govt hospitals due to scarcity in facilities, medical staff and doctors. This troubled the governments a lot. As a result, patients had to rush into private hospitals. Unluckily, they were also not ready.

Is the death rate misleading?

The death rate in India is 1.7. But this is a clear controversy. In fact,

most of the calculations regarding the pandemic are controversial. Adam Kucharski, is a mathematician at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He studies the spread of disease and explains some of the figures that keep popping up in corona virus news. New York Times newspaper contacted him to know detailed calculations of corona virus.

Adam explained that only total number of deaths and current number of cases are not the only aspects that one should consider while calculating the death rate. He said, "The problem with just dividing the total number of deaths and total number of cases is that it doesn't account for unreported cases or the delay from illness to death. The delay is crucial: If 100 people arrive at hospital with Covid-19 on a given day, and all are currently still alive, it obviously doesn't mean that the fatality rate is 0 percent. We need to wait until we know what happens to them eventually".

By the end 2020, number of corona virus cases crossed one crore mark and one lakh fifty thousand people were lost their lives. Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu consisted the major number of deaths.

A new study conducted by the economist Partha Mukhopadhyay says that the death rate in youth was considerably more than the world average death rate. Prof Mukhopadhyay opined that there is a need to find the reason behind increasing deaths of youth. Is it because of Diabetes or respiratory diseases due to air pollution in city? Is our youth unhealthy? However, experts say country's average death rate is low. And most of them will be elderly people.

What are the circumstances to be encountered in future?

The facilitation of corona determining tests in India is not yet effective. 10.50 lakh samples are tested daily. Before lockdown, number of daily cases were between 1000 but now it increased rapidly. However, comparing to the world's per capita rate, India had less impact.

"We have resources and efficiency too. But we don't have a perfect planning. We're just happy with the first benefits of lockdown", Prof Mukharjee commented. Delhi is the best example for such negligence. Govt confused with pandemic's behaviour. Thus, it ordered private hospitals to facilitate some more beds for COVID-19 patients. Stadiums, Hotels, Function halls are converted into patient beds. But how will it be possible to supply oxygen immediately? What about doctors and nurses? Experts opine that temporary plans cannot fetch us the desired results.

"This is a critical situation. Still, we are at the initial phase of the pandemic. It may take a year or more time for recovery. What are the plans to encounter the upcoming period of 12-16 months?", Dr. Zhuge says.

41 Chapter

Magic Show of the pharmaceutical companies!

Pharmaceutical companies took the advantage of the corona fear in people. Doctors were advising few kinds of medicines according to the symptoms of the disease. Few suspected that antiviral medicine sold in the name of antidots of coronavirus. Companies made profit of worth 1000 crores in the trade of vaccine.

Emergency permissions

Glenmark company made Favipiravir tablets available in the market. Each tablet costs 103 rupees. And the course was for 14 days. This was experimented on 150 people in India. The experimental results were not recorded properly. Drug controller authority had given permissions in the name of emergency. With this, the rest of the companies were shocked.

Nowadays, Lakhs of people were getting cured in the country. What kind of medicine is to be used? Normally paracetamol for fever, Cetirizine or Hydroxychloroquine for cold. Few people used antibiotic Azithromycin medicine. Some of the doctors advised antiviral drugs used in HIV treatment. Kerala doctors prescribed antiviral drugs used during Nipah virus. Doctors were advising different kinds of antiviral drugs depending upon the disease intensity and its symptoms.

What about new medicines

In fact, these medicines neither discovered nor approved through experiments. Generic drugs are generally found in market. Anyone can manufacture them. Favipiravir tablets were manufactured long before in Japan. This was an influenza drug. Glenmark company released it in the name of Fabbi flu medicine and made its business. Remdesivir medicine which was introduced by Hetero and Cipla is also an old medicine. Only the names were changed nothing was discovered yet.

How did they give permission?

Permissions were given to use Remdesivir medicine in trade. But the experiments on the use of Remdesivir for the corona was not finished yet. In fact, this medicine is used in times of emergency. In few situations this med-

icine might exhibit side effects. American president Trump stepped forward regarding this medicine. There was news across the world that America had purchased all the stock of Gilead sciences. The department of US Health and Human Services had revealed this fact. It had informed that US had purchased 5 lakh doses from the one and only Remdesivir manufacturing company Gilead sciences. Many nations had expectations thinking that this medicine would cure covid-19 victims.

What's all this illegal business?

Gilead sciences, BDR pharmaceuticals, Jubilant life sciences, Reddy laboratories etc pharmaceutical companies were given permission. In fact, the Drug Control Authority should give the permission. They had no answers to these suspicions. Ultimately pharmaceutical industry had been creating an artificial hype that corona vaccine was invented. It was unfortunate that these pharmaceutical companies took advantage of people's fear about corona and aimed at earning crores with expensive prices. At present, a medicine called Hetero Covifor 100 mg injection is sold at the price of rupees 4,000.

Duration of the medicine course was not fixed yet. After knowing all these, doubts were raised against Drug Control Authority that whether it's permitting pharmacies in the name of emergency. Because our pharmaceutical industry has such great history in the past.

Ramdev's Coronil

Patanjali is also a corporate organisation. But it also makes cash under the name of Indian medicine. That's the difference. Patanjali had introduced medicine called Coronil. This organisation had sold immunity booster kits earlier. And now it's advertising that it had invented medicine to corona which will cure the disease in just 4 to 10 days. 69 percent of experimented patients were cured, it said. Patanjali explained the ingredients used in preparation of medicine at fixed proportions- Ashwagandha, Tulasi, Swasari ras etc. This organization tried to prove the certification of Clinical Trial Registry of India by campaigning that 300 people had taken part in trials which showed positive results. However, Drug control authority later declared that Patanjali was not permitted as a corona virus drug.

42 Chapter

The year of 1995…

was working as a trainee sub editor in Visakhapatnam.

A letter in the column "Eenadu Lekhalu" attracted me. The letter was about the prohibition of fake medicine. The readers alleged that many developed countries were selling banned drugs indiscriminately in our country. This article was quite interesting. I wished to make a research on it. There were no internet browsing and Google available in those days. We'd to search in old newspapers and etc sources. I visited a known doctor near Eenadu office in Visakhapatnam and asked him about the atrocities in medicine sale. He gave suggested me a book written on behalf of "Jana Vignana Vedika" by Dr. V. Brahma Reddy about the indiscriminate use of drugs and medicine. I'd also met few drug inspectors, doctors and medical representatives. I was shocked at the information which I'd gathered.

In the year 1970, people used to suffer from drought and health issues. Medicine availability was not remarkable in our India though it was in the list of developing nations. Therefore, Central government appointed a 15 membered committee in 1974, led by former IDPL Chairman Jayasukh Lal Hathi, to progress the medical sector. This committee went on a systematic analysis. The Hathi Committee submitted its report to the Government in 1975. In respect of essential drugs, it drew up a list of 116 medicines which in its opinion were extensively used in urban and rural areas and suggested measures to make these essential drugs available at reasonable price throughout the country. Indian Medical Association declared that the number can be extended to 150. By then, WHO recommended that 256 kinds of medicines will be enough to diagnose any kind of disease across the world. But now, about 85,000 kinds of medical formulations are available in the market. Most of them are dangerous with useless, meaningless chemical combinations. In India, the indiscriminate sale of prohibited medicine is very common. The most atrocious thing is that the medicines are advertised in Television without any fear. The medical shopkeepers and officers are bribed to make sure they do not complain.

Finally, after collecting this data, I framed a fantabulous article and sent it to "Eenadu Sunday Magazine", wishing that it would be published as a cover story. But it was rejected then. I was deeply disappointed.

Perhaps, it might not possess the characters of a cover story, I thought. After few months, I wished to send it again on the occasion of "World Health Day" on April 7. This time, I decided to send the article for general feature in the edit page. So, I made few modifications for the article and did send it to

Central Editorial Board. It was not rejected this time.

Thus, my dream to write an article for the Edit page came true.

Hathi committee already noted in its report that along with the brand name, medicines' generic name also must be written clearly in the prescription in big fonts. It is impossible for the doctors to remember all the names of medicines though they are well-flourished. Hence, Hathi committee instructed the companies to print generic names instead of brand names. But Pharmaceutical companies still neglect this rule.

Fraudsters make profits by mixing a different combination for a known medicine. They release it as a new medicine into the market. Most of the medicines belong to this category only. Hathi committee proposed to ban all the unnecessary medicine combinations. Vitamins medicines, tonics, Boost, Bournvita, Horlicks etc manufacturers make 300-400% of profit by occupying 80% of the market. It was surprising to know that pharmaceutical companies do not opt for the production of emergency medicines which are essential to most of the people since there is control on its profits. But they manufacture limitless medical products that are not much essential for people. They sell these medicines at very expensive prices and loot people's money.

Though, India does not follow the recommendations of Hathi Committee, its neighbouring country, Bangladesh has been following them seriously. Bangladesh had already banned the brand names of medicine. After the emergence of pharmaceutical companies like IDPL, medicines were available at lowest prices in the world by 1980. Later, due to the reforms government sector was weakened. Private sector strengthened. After government signed in WTO, private medical sector replaced government medical sector. It is undeniable fact that treatment had become available only for the rich. No matter how pharmaceutical companies functioned in normal days, but in this pandemic, Nation is likely to lose more than the corona crisis if the companies do not remove their brand names.

43 Chapter

What are the precautions to be taken?

After seeing the terrific incidents in America and Italy, people changed their irresponsible attitude and started following tips and advices of the doctors.

COVID-19 cases took pace from the past one month due to lockdown exemptions and initiation of Trade transactions. People had to live in fearful circumstances unaware of the threat from any directions. At the same time, they had to lead their lives by facing the virus courageously. According to the guidelines of ICMR, the symptomless positive patients and slight symptoms patients were getting treatment in their houses only. And there are people who had got cured by following precautions in isolation.

In these situations, what are the precautions to be taken by slightly infected people and normal people? What are the provisions to be followed in workplaces? Who should go for virus tests? Reputed General Physician Dr. M. V Rao had provided precious information on the topics discussed above.

Why COVID-19 is dangerous?

COVID-19 is a virus infection. Its lifespan is just two weeks. Then after, it will become weak gradually. In fact, 85 percent of the virus infected people are not dangerous. No symptoms are seen even if he/she was virus infected. Virus might infect people unknowingly and even it might become weak unknowingly. After a time period, anti-bodies increase in body.

Now, we are seeing the virus symptoms in only 15 percent of infected people. And in these people, again only 5 percent of them had the necessity of ICU treatment. Since, COVID-19 is a new disease, no proper information was revealed yet. Normally, this virus enters respiratory system of the body and lead to common throat ache and also severe Pneumonia. Though, virus become weak later, inflammation starts in the respiratory system.

This inflammation shows bad effect on the smooth and delicate layer-Endothelium located in the blood vessels. Endothelium layer helps smooth and easy flow of blood in the vessels. Endothelial cells possess some anti-coagulant chemicals. But virus is attacking on Endothelial tissues. In medical terminology, this inflammation is termed as "vasculopathy". Due to inflammation, blood in the microscopic vessels gets coagulated. As a result, the flow of body requirements like Oxygen, nutrients and other chemicals will be hindered by the blood coagulation. Subsequently, tissues scarce the supply of

oxygen. As a whole, other organs also get affected. For suppose, some positive patients suffer fever. And gets cured later. They assume themselves healthy. But due to the unnoticed blood coagulation in the blood vessels, sudden fatal situation arises. Therefore, inflammation identified patients are suggested to use anti-coagulant medicine for 6 weeks even if there is no fever.

Who can go for tests?

Since the cases were increasing rapidly, few people though they had no symptoms, are going for tests due to suspicion in mind. If a single person in office or apartment is known infected, then everyone runs towards test centres. In fact, who need testing?

- People with symptoms of fever, cold, cough, throat ache.
- People suffering from severe throat infection.
- If symptoms are noticed after being in contact with a positive person for 2 weeks.
- Health volunteers having symptoms
- Family members (suffering with long-term diseases like Blood Pressure, Diabetes, heart diseases) and elders in the category of positive patient with no symptoms.

Division of corona victims.

Typically, COVID-19 infected patients are divided into 5 types. However, severe patients, situation out of control patients and medium affected patients need to be treated in hospitals. Rest of the two types of patients are kept in isolation at their homes and need to be provided with the treatment. What are the precautions? When to go for hospitals? What are the rules and regulations to be followed in house isolation? How to identify danger signs? Is second time test necessary? etc are the main topics.

1.People with no symptoms (Asymptomatic)

2.People with slight symptoms (Mild)

3.People with limited symptoms (Moderate)

4.People with intense symptoms (Severe)

5.People in situation out of control (Critical)

1. People with NO symptoms.

- These people will be tested positive. But they have no symptoms.
- Healthy and 60 below aged people need not to worry about this.
- These people need no special medicine.
- Sleeping at right time, eating properly, maintain peaceful mind etc

is enough.

- People with above 55 age or suffering with BP, Diabetes, HIV, Cancer, Heart, Kidneys, Brain etc long-term diseases, should also live house isolation. They must consult doctor immediately if any symptoms are seen.
- The isolation should be for 10 days.

2. People with slight symptoms

- Normally, virus infects one after another. But there are chances for the virus spread before the outcome of symptoms.
- There are chances of virus spread before 2, 3 days of outcome of the symptoms like fever, cough etc.
- The fever temperature will be less than 101 Degree Fahrenheit.
- Dry cough in few situations
- Slight throat ache.
- Oxygen percentage in blood will be 95 or above.
- No fatigue
- 10 days of isolation is necessary.

3. People with slight symptoms

- Fever temperature will be more than 101 Degree Fahrenheit.
- Often dry cough and throat ache.
- Oxygen percentage in blood is between 90-94.
- Frequency of inhalation and exhalation is between 24-30.
- These people are needed to get medical treatment with the help of oxygen.
- Including these people, severe patients and critical patients also need to be admitted in hospital.

Isolation precautions

- Don't be panic. Since it can affect immunity.
- Concentrate on topics which keep your mind in peace.
- Read your favourite books.
- Do not watch COVID-19 news more often. Since those news make you panic again.
- Listen to music. Do video calls to your loved ones.
- Do test BP. Fever, Oxygen levels daily. Be careful about fatigue.
- Positive people need not to go for tests if no symptoms are seen

after 10 days.

- Should take steam for 3 times a day if symptoms like fever, cough and throat ache are observed.
- Should take food that builds immunity.

Precautions in home

- Should live in individual room so as to ensure other not infected with us.
- No need of wearing N-95 masks. Wear surgical masks.
- Room should be full of air and light and kept clean,
- Individual bathrooms must be maintained.
- Others should not use the plates or material or clothes used by these people.
- Those should be cleaned with 1% of Sodium Hypo Chlorate solution.
- Helpers and caterers should wear mask
- Maintain 6 feet distance from the positive person.
- Install "Arogya Setu" app in your smartphones.
- Keep in touch with the nearest Health centre.
- Mask and other material must be burnt,
- Use closable dustbins
- Wash hands for 40-60 seconds.
- Leave your hands dry in free air. Avoid using dry cloths
- Dresses and blankets used by positive person must be sunk in hot water for 30 minutes.
- Cleaning people should also wear mask

Treatment if symptoms were seen?

- Should take Paracetamol tablet for every six hours.
- Antibiotics, Vitamin C, D and Zinc tablets must be taken.
- Hydroxychloroquine medicine is given for hight risk patients according to the guidelines issued by ICMR. But now, doctors are using "Favipiravir", an anti-viral medicine instead of Hydroxychloroquine.

When should we go for hospital?

- Fever with temperature above 101. Shivering due to fever.
- Continuous cough with gradual increasement.

- Increased weakness. These people might be affected more.
- Increased fatigue. Generally, breathing frequency is 14-18 per minute. In this situation, it increases more than 24.
- If oxygen percentage is less than 94 in blood.
- If lips and face turn blue in colour.
- Unconsciousness and uncomfortableness in chest region.

Important in house

- Pulse meter, Thermometer, BP apparatus.
- Paracetamol 650 mg tablets. 4-6 times a day.
- Antibiotics. Azithromycin 500 mg. once in a day. Or doxycycline 100 mg. twice in a day.
- Zinc tablet. Daily one.
- Vitamin C 500 mg tablets. Two tablets a day.
- Vitamin D. 60 thousand units. One for a week.

Chapter 44

Hero in people's hearts

Only two days are important in human life. One is birthday. Another is the day when he realises the purpose of his birth. Should he think of his family? Or should he do something for people's welfare? I think, this Indian actor from Bollywood, Sonusood had thought same alike. He used the great opportunity to serve citizens in the nation. Sonusood generally plays villain roles in cinemas. But in this COVID-19 period, he played the greatest role of a hero.

Sonusood provided travel facilities for lakhs of migrant workers who stopped their journeys due to no transportation facilities. He had arranged buses, rails and even airplanes on his own expenses. He stood behind the helpless and continuously supported them in all terms medical and survival during the lockdown. Sonusood earned a long-lasting and memorable seat in people's hearts.

All his efforts made him a real star. His fame spread beyond regions and across the nation. Few people named their children as Sonusood. While some named their shops and services. In Telangana, a Thanda people even built a temple for him. Sonusood achieved first place in top 5o celebrities in the world. A newspaper in UK called Eastern Eye announced this glory.

These five earned 22,000 crores while the world was topsy turvy

The whole world in 2020 faced severe crisis due to corona virus spread. All the people irrespective of nations were suffered. Many employees lost their employments. Financial troubles encountered by all. But in this time period, few rich men became even more rich. They had increased their properties. 60 percent of the world billionaires became wealthier. Only five people among all these had a rise in their earnings up to 310.5 billion dollars (22,000 crores).

1. Elon Musk, Tesla CEO

CEO of Tesla cars and SpaceX, Elon Musk has increased his properties value up to 140 billion dollars. According to the newspaper Bloomberg, his total property increased to 167 billion dollars. Elon Musk has beaten Microsoft Co-founder Bill Gates and joined the second place of world's richest person. Forbes Magazine had told that no one other than Musk had earned more properties in a single year when they had started examining the details of rich people's properties. Tesla cars were sold at record level and SpaceX also managed to bring positive results. Therefore, the company share price

increased.

2. Jeff Bezos, Amazon CEO

The world's richest person Jeff Bezos properties increased up to 72 billion dollars. Sales increased on Amazon in COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, income had also grown. Generally, Bezos do not engage in donations. But this year, he had donated 10 billion dollars for facing environmental changes. In November, he donated 800 million dollars to few Environmental protection organizations. Bezos gave donation of 5.8 billion dollars to the charitable organizations led by his Ex-wife Mekanji Scott.

3. Zhong Shanshan, founder of Nongfu Spring

Bloomberg had informed that Zhong's property has increased up to 62.6 billion dollars. He leads a water bottle trading company called Nongfu Spring. Zhang became the richest person of China in November after entering into IPO. He established Nongfu Spring in 1996 with 84 percent of his share in the company. His share value is 60 billion dollars. Zhong surpassed Ali Baba founder Jack Ma and Tencent founder Poni Ma to evolve as China's new richest person. Zhong has a share in the vaccine manufacturing organization, Wantai biological pharmacy, Beijing.

4. Bernard Arnold, Owner of LVMH Group

Bernard Arnold is the richest person in France. Forbes estimated him as the world's second richest person. But Bloomberg addressed him as the fourth richest person in the world. LVMH is a multinational corporation and conglomerate specializing luxury goods. His total properties would worth 146.3 billion dollars. Bernard's properties value increased by 30 percent in the year 2020. LVMH postponed the plan of buying Tiffany and Co. after corona virus outbreak. But now, it had bought Tiffany and Co. at 15.8 billion dollars which is 400 million dollars less as thought earlier.

5. Dan Gilbert, Co-founder Rock Ventures

Gilbert is the owner of the National Basketball Association's Cleveland Cavaliers team. He is also the Co-founder of Quicken Loans. Bloomberg estimated that Gilbert's properties had increased up to 35.3 billion dollars. In the last August, Rock Ventures entered IPO. And with this, Gilbert's properties increased six times. 80 percent of share in Rock ventures is owned by Gilbert. This share has value of 31 billion dollars.

Chapter 45

New vaccines in the New year 2021

At last, the new year of 2020 had arrived. Everyone wished the miserable situations would fade away. All the adversities would vanish away. But new year has not responded as expected. A new virus strain evolved in Europe which created panic in people. However, the wish for vaccine remained as a source of courage after witnessing progress in the manufacture of vaccines in Europe, America etc nations.

Indian government had granted the use of Covaxin developed by domestic pharmaceutical company, Bharat Biotech and Covishield developed by Serum Institute of India collaboration with Oxford-AstraZeneca. The distribution of vaccine started from 16 January 2021 which created faith in crores of Indians.

Few other countries planned for the distribution of vaccine to the citizens. List of vaccines developed by companies for few nations as follows-

Pfizer - BioNTech.

American pharmaceutical company in collaboration with German company BioNTech developed a vaccine. The companies had released the details of final phase in the last November. Publishing the details of final phase was the first time. Britain granted emergency use of this vaccine on December 3. Canada on December 9 and America on 11 of same month, European Medical agency on 21 had approved the use of this vaccine. Few countries including India were reviewing on this vaccine.

Moderna Vaccine.

Moderna had released the details of final phase experiments on 30th November. Moderna was identified as the second agency to do so. It informed that the vaccine would work the 94.1 efficiency.

America on 19th December, Canada on 23rd December had granted its use.

AstraZeneca

Britain, Argentina and El Salvador had already given permission for emergency use. The organization assured 90 percent efficiency of the vaccine. India is the fourth country to give permissions to this vaccine.

Johnson and Johnson vaccine

It is an American company. The vaccine is given in a single dose. It

must be stored under the temperature between 2-8 degree centigrade. It is in its Phase III (40,000). Randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled Positive results from an interim analysis were announced on 29 January 2021. However, it was not fully authorized. It is used under emergency conditions.

Sinopharm Vaccine

Sinopharm is a Chinese National Pharmaceutical Group Corp. China approved this vaccine for distribution. It told that the vaccine has the efficacy of 79 %. China had already permitted the distribution of vaccines developed by companies like China National group and Sinovac Biotech in the month of July under emergency while vaccines are in the clinical test phase. China had distributed vaccines for 10 lakh people by November.

Sputnik-V

Russia initiated the distribution of this vaccine in the August (2020) itself. On 24 November, Russia informed the efficacy of vaccine was 91.4 percent. India planned for 30 crore doses of Sputnik-v in the next year.

The vaccine needs to be stored in minus 18 Degree Centigrade temperature. And it is given in 2 doses.

One-third of the vaccines are from Genome Valley

Hyderabad, the capital city of Telangana, had the major shares in the preparation of vaccine. It shares 35 % in the National Pharmaceutical products and 33% in the International level. The domestic vaccine- Covaxin prepared by the Bharat Biotech company was produced in the Genome Valley of Hyderabad. Biotech companies in Hyderabad produces six billion doses per annum. One-third of the vaccines in the world comes from the Genome Valley. Prime minister Modi came to know its significance and in his visit to the valley, he discussed with the vaccine manufacturers. Ambassadors of 80 nations had visited the site for the details of vaccine preparation. More than 200 International Start Up companies decided to expand Genome Valley. At present, 10,000 scientists are working in 200 main pharmaceutical hubs. About 600 companies are providing their services. Hyderabad pharmaceuticals surpassed Chennai, Bangalore cities. The products are exported across the world. Genome Valley in Hyderabad is providing employment indirectly for lakhs of people including the manufacture of new vaccines. Presently, Genome Valley has the value of six lakh crores with 800 companies in cluster 1 and 2 regions.

Chapter 46

Pollution reduced across the world

Though, corona virus had made mass destruction in terms of life and economy, it had also helped the mankind in another perspective. Since, public were restricted to their houses, no pollution of any kind was seen in the environment. For instance, the environment was cleaned. The sky restored its blue colour. Stars appeared clearly in the nights. Animals came out and roamed on the roads freely. Environmental scientist Stuart Pim of Duke University explained the destruction done to environment by humans after observing the present situations. Pollution decreased greatly across the world. The Delhi was seen with clear clouds above. Nitrogen dioxide levels decreased to 30% in the North-East America. Ganga river water became fresh and clean.

Air pollution was decreased by 49 % in Rome. Health Effects Institute estimated 70 lakh deaths per annum due to pollution. Paris had experienced 46% reduced air pollution compared to the last five years. Pollution reduction in famous cities as follows- 35% in Bangalore, 38% in Sidney, 29 % in Los Angeles and 9% percent in Durban. On April 3, people in Jalandhar of Punjab state could able to see the Himalayas covered with snow and located at the distance of 100 miles. Environmentalists described it as a wonder. There were expectations that pollution reduction will decrease lung problems and subsequently corona effect also.

Ganga river water is drinkable now

It is significant that the most polluted holy river Ganga is pure now. Nature can heal itself if human interventions get decreased. The Central and the State governments invested thousands of crores in the purification of river Ganga. But the result was not satisfying. But, due to lockdown, the industrial wastes are not ejected into it since the factories were shut down. Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board informed that the river water became pure to drink. Especially, the regions of Haridwar and Rishikesh became purer than in the past. The Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) also increased in the river water. Scientists had told that the river was polluted by 80% of dust and contaminated water. But there was a significant reduction in pollution during the lockdown. Yamuna river water was also purified.

Lockdown effect - Reduction of pollution.

American Space Research Organization NASA revealed that Nitrogen dioxide levels in atmosphere were decreased by 20%. The research results

were presented at the 2020 International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storing and Analysis. Scientists created a computer-generated model for this purpose. In the process, the data was collected from 5,756 regions of 46 nations. Scientists observed 20-50% reduction in Nitrogen dioxide levels in the atmosphere. They had also studied the range of corona virus effect during lockdown in Wuhan. Wuhan city had 60 percent less emission of NO2 than the expected digits. Milan and New York regions of Italy and America also witnessed reduced pollution. According to the report of the Central Pollution Control Board, Nitrogen dioxide levels in India decreased by 50% during lockdown.

Chapter 47

Today's morning…
I could sense something is going to happen…
Busy weather is seen in the ward…

Two doctors… and two nurses… I think one is a house surgeon, came near my bed. They were observing the case sheet. Senior doctor was instructing. Accordingly, the rest of the doctors were shaking their heads. Nurse was scribbling something in her note book.

As usually, doctors were speaking to themselves instead of speaking with patients. However, this tradition is continued from generations and is same in all the government hospitals.

Few moments later, they kept the case sheet over there and left from my bed.

I caught it and started observing.

'Meningitis' was written beside the space near diagnosis- "Japanese Encephalitis virus (J.I.V)".

What's this? Corona is known as COVID-19 right?

Does this mean I was not provided with corona treatment all these days?

I was unable to understand anything. I was about to memorize the past. Am I not infected with the COVID-19 virus?

Japanese Encephalitis virus is one of the mostly infected viruses in Asian countries. This virus is of many types. This virus resides in birds, pigs and rats etc. Virus enters Culex mosquitoes when they bite these organisms. Humans are also infected with virus after the bit of Culex mosquitoes. The infection expands to the fluids surrounding Spine and Brain. Headache, fever, improper functioning of Brain and paralysis are the symptoms of this virus. Doctors collect sample from spine to test its infection in Brain. That's why they had hurt me in that day.

However, I realized that I wasn't infected with COVID-19 virus.

Sometimes we go behind the reality. Specially, in dreams. We'll come to know that it was just a dream as it gets intensified.

Our mind usually reminds us that it is not real when we dream things not related to us or beyond the reality.

So, is there any chance of their occurrence in real life? Can the non-reality be seen virtually? What is our feeling after realising that everything we believed is just an illusion created by our mind.

That was the year of 1990

It was the time when I was working in the Vijay Electricals in Rudraram village near Patancheruvu. One day, suddenly I did fall ill due to fever. I remember, ,y Roommate Parameshwarappa and an employee of a company took me to the ESI hospital in the company van. I went unconscious during the treatment.

Doctors shifted me to the Tropical disease treatment centre (Koranty davakhana) in Hyderabad. I went unconscious for 2 days.

My old-aged parents had feared after knowing about my illness through the telegram. I was the only son born after six girl children. In fact, sudden illness of a son with a job, makes every parent terrified. That too, in a place far from the native village.

They don't know what to do and how to reach me?

Radhakrishna, son of our elder sister is the only person who once visited Hyderabad. I don't know how my father reached him in Kakinada but he came for me after 2 days. Really, he served me a lot.

Doctors insisted me that I can discharge after a week and go for village. They advised to use medicine carefully for six months and to consult a regional doctor in case of emergency.

Slowly, we started our journey.

Since there were no medical facilities in our village, I decided to go for our third sister's house. I got down in Rajahmundry. Our parents also reached there.

They wept after seeing me. I could memorize their eyes full of tears that day. Our sister healed them.

After two days, illness again attacked me.

Immediately, I was taken to a known doctor nearby my village. He treated me for 2 days based on the prescriptions and medicines referred by Hyderabad doctors. Later, he gave off and told us to reach Kakinada govt hospital.

Situation became same as earlier. I was unconscious then.

My mother told me that I came into consciousness after 3 days. I think they might had seen a hell for 3 days in front of their eyes. A grown son restricted for bed. That too mumbling something in unconsciousness. How hard it will be for any parent?

After 10 days I became a normal human. A big doctor in white clothes came near my bed and said good news. "No Danger! You can leave to home

now. He prescribed medicine for every week.

In fact, that day was a festival in our home.

They took me home as a new born baby.

That was a deadly incident. I'd almost seen the death.

My sweet old grandmother who had witnessed many deaths, couldn't control tears from her eyes. My aunt hugged me and cried a lot.

Really, I felt this as a Reincarnation.

I used to go Kakinada each and every week and consult doctors in hospital. For few days, my father carried me on bicycle for 13 Km. My medical expenditure was a burden for him who was already lost in business.

Thus, that was the third experience for him taking me to Kakinada.

Once in my childhood, I was suffered with eye defect due to an incident. My father took me to the doctor for several weeks. I remember those eye drops which hurt me a lot. And my dear father used to heal me and carry me back to home on bicycle. Sometimes, my sister used to take me due our father's busy schedule.

Later, I think in seventh standard! I was bitten by a dog. My father carried me to Kakinada hospital for 14 days.

On a whole, I remembered that experience once again.

I realised that I was subjected to an illusion of COVID-19 infection since I engaged myself hectically in writing and reading the news and articles on corona virus. My thoughts left me in an illusion that I was infected with COVID-19 with the memory of past life experiences.

"Now, I must step forward along with life…
I must leave worries in air and take a leap from them…"

VENKU

This is neither a story nor a fiction. This is a surreal representation with a captivating interlinkage of the virus database and 25 years of life journey as a journalist in Leading Telugu News Paper Eenadu

Coro-nostalgia

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